THE HINDOO PATRIOT

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Summary of News.

Monday, 31st August.

PROPOSALS are now before the Government of India for fixing the strength of the permanent garrison in Manipur. This will probably consist of a regiment and a-half of the Assam Gurkha Regiments with two guns. The 2nd Battalion 2nd Gurkhas, and No. 8 Bengal Mountain Battery will consequently return to India in the cold weather. It is intended to keep an extra battalion in Assam.

THE cost of the proposed new frontier line, from Rumiya, east of Attock, to Kahal, on the Kushalgarh branch of the North-Western system, will be heavy, being estimated to total 162 lakhs for the 104 miles of line.

PRINCE George of Greece, according to *Truth*, has got himself into terrible disgrace at the Court of St. Petersburg owing to his indiscretion in publishing his own account of the row in which the Cesarewitch was wounded, without previously submitting it to some discreet person for revision.

IT has been decided that for the present only the Lucknow-Rai Bareli section of the railway connecting Lucknow with Jaunpore shall be taken in hand.

THE King of Siam is said to have in one of his country palaces a wonderful pavilion. It was built by a Chinese engineer as a refuge for the King during the extreme heat of the summer. The walls, ceiling and floors are formed of pieces of plate-glass an inch thick. These are so perfectly fitted together with a transparent cement that the joints are invisible, and no fluid can penetrate. The pavilion is 28ft long and 17ft. wide, and stands in the middle of a huge basin made of beautifully coloured marbles. When he enters the pavilion, the single door is closed and cemented. Then the sluice gates are opened and the basin is filled with water. Higher and higher it rises, until the pavilion is covered and only the ventilators at the top connect it with the open air. When the heat of the sun is so great that the water almost boils on the surface of the freshest fountains, this pavilion is deliciously cool. And this is the way the King of Siam cools himself off in hot weather.

SINCE the 1st of January 840 wells have been dug in the Chingleput district, and 1,900 more are in course of construction. The coolies on the relief works are almost entirely agricultural labourers out of work. The rain on the 30th and 31st August though pretty general at Chingleput and North Arcot, was unfortunately not sufficient to fill the tanks. The cattle are affected by want of pasturage, but the people generally show on signs of emaciation. In a very few villages, where the contrary is the case, villagers refused to frequent the works or take relief in the kitchen provided.

THE Government of India is likely to have shortly under consideration the establishment of an efficient statistical bureau, by a combination of the agency now employed in the Financial and the Revenue and Agricultural Departments, the main object being to utilise more fully the returns prepared by the latter Department.

THE despatches regarding the Black Mountain Expedition are published. The Governor-General in Council, in concurrence with the Commander-in-Chief, desires to record his entire approval of the careful and thorough manner in which the work of the expedition was carried out by Major-General Elles, and of the good discipline and soldier-like conduct displayed by the troops on various occasions in the presence of the enemy. The Adjutant-General in a letter to the Military Department says that the objects of the expedition have been fully accomplished. The submission of the offending tribes has been more complete than on any former occasion. They have assented to the construction of roads and dominating posts upon the frontier, and to the permanent expatriation of their chief, Hashim Ali, who for years has been the moving spirit in all the border outrages; and a small force remains in their country to observe the fulfilment of their pledges.

Tuesday, 1st September.

MR. G. M. Sathe has just issued his report on the condition and progress of vernacular and other literature in the Bombay Presidency for last year, in which he says:—'On the whole, literary activity of this Presidency during 1890 was pretty fair. Looking to the quantity and quality of the publications produced during the last preceding five years, the literary progress of this Presidency appears to be slow, though steady. The reproductions are more valuable than the so-called original works. The number of translations from English into the vernaculars is not large enough. India has had much, if not enough, of religious, mythological, dramatic and poetical literature. What appears now to be required most is a literature treating of every-day life and matter-of-fact questions and likely to promote the material welfare of the country. Looking to the relative position of the different languages Marathi and Gujerati appear to have kept their former ground, and are on a par with each other; Kanarese, Urdu and Sindi do not show signs of strong vitality. Hindi is doing better than before. Of the classical languages Sanskrit appears to be the greatest favourite.

DR. Pentecost on Monday evening lectured at Puna on the Anglo-Saxon Race and its Providential Mission in India. His Excellency the Governor presided. Dr. Pentecost in the course of his lecture said that, coming to the solid results of British rule, according to the recent census returns, there were, of railways operating throughout the land 16,000 miles, carrying annually more than 100 millions of passengers, and putting in circulation more than 20 millions sterling. Of high roads, metalled and otherwise, there had been built and were now maintained 26,000 miles. Of telegraphic lines there were 35,000 miles, with 116,000 miles of wire transmitting annually three millions of messages. The Post Office Department showed 71,000 miles of postal routes, more than 8,000 post offices, and more than 300 millions of packages carried to and from among the people, with an expedition, accuracy and economy unequalled by any postal system in the world. Better than all this were the educational results, and the educational progress which was being made. There were, in India, 94,163 Government schools, having 3,100,000 pupils. Of private schools there were 40,570, having more than 500,000 pupils. So that altogether there were 134,733 schools, English and vernacular, having 36,00,000 pupils. That meant 20 per cent of the entire male population of school-going age. The above results might, Dr. Pentecost thought, well serve for a sample of the great work of moral and material progress which the Anglo-Saxon had brought to this land.

THE Industrial Conference at Puna, concluded after five sittings. The time of the last sitting was occupied by Indian manufacturers, who produced specimens of their products, and explained the direction in which they might be extended, and made to compete with similar articles, manufactured in England. The next meeting of the Conference will take place in Puna in September next year.

A HINDU philosopher has just been caught in Chicago, says the *Pall Mall*. It was a hot evening, and he was taking a suburban stroll in tropical costume—to wit, six yards of linen girt about the waist, with ends falling to the knees, and a linen shirt, "cut very decollete." The shocked Chicagoans sent for the Police to arrest a "crazy coloured man half-naked." The Police lieutenant on investigation found the eccentric coloured gentleman to be a resident of Bombay—"Narayan" by name. He produced a number of letters from British officials, showing that he was a philosopher of more than ordinary erudition, and a Christian philanthropist to boot. He is travelling in America in order more effectually to equip his mind, the matter in which his powers are chiefly exercised just now being the amelioration of the condition of women in his native land. The Police lieutenant apologised to Narayan for the arrest, and let him go, but at the same time gently suggested the addition to his wardrobe of articles, prescribed by American prejudice, if not by Oriental philosophy.

A MONUMENT is to be erected by Government at Manipur over the grave of Mr. Quinton and his ill-fated companions. A tablet to their memory will also be placed in the Calcutta Cathedral as announced before.

Wednesday, 2nd September.

THREE thousand prisoners, all the Artillery of the Government forces, and the President's fleet have been captured by the Insurgents. Santiago has been handed over to the victors without a blow, and a general peace in Chile is now regarded as being merely a question of days. The Insurgent troops in Valparaiso are orderly and busily engaged in subduing the armed incendiary mobs, who are constantly fighting and killing in the streets. It is reported that before President Balmaceda fled, sixty hostages, the sons of insurgent leaders, were shot by his orders. On Friday night the disbanded soldiers of President Balmaceda's army aided by the rabble fired and looted fourteen buildings in Valparaiso, and property to the value of two million dollars was destroyed. The Congressional troops shot two hundred of the rioters before order was restored. Similar scenes took place at Santiago on Saturday, where the mob attacked and burned the houses belonging to President Balmaceda, his relations, and political supporters. Troops from Valparaiso now occupy the City.

IT was reported from Bokhara that Abdul Achad Khan, the Amir of Bokhara, had resolved to come to St. Petersburg in October and stay there some time, and that during his absence from his country Russian troops would be garrisoned in different parts of it to maintain public order and peace. Now, however, private information has reached Vienna to the effect that the Russian troops will occupy the three cities on the Amu Daria, Kiif, Termez, and Chosch Toge. Termez especially is a point of great importance to Russia, because it is situated only five hours' march from the fortress of Balkh.

A GERMAN paper says that the "civil" clothes of the German Emperor are made by a well-known firm in London, but that some are made by a Berlin firm, and by one in Vienna. The grey top hat worn by the Emperor was made in London. The military uniforms of the Emperor come mostly from the workshop of Robrecht in Berlin. Every uniform is tried on, but all the civil clothing must be delivered and fit without this operation. When the Emperor travels, trunks full of uniforms, all new, are taken with him, so that each kind is ready for use.

INFORMATION has been received in Bombay that a fatal struggle took place between a number of convicts and their Police guard in one of the third class carriages of the up-mail train at a point near Panoli station on the B. B. and C. I. Railway on Monday night. The convicts who are Kattywar dacoits, and who are all under sentence of hard labour for life, were being conveyed from Ahmedabad to Bombay for the purpose of being incarcerated in the Tanna Jail. They were heavily hand-cuffed and were in charge of an armed guard of the District Police, who were also locked in the carriage in which they were travelling. These convicts were conveyed in safety to near Panoli, which station the train was due to pass through at about mid-night on Monday, but at that place the dacoits presumably by preconcerted design having released their hands from the hand-cuffs which secured them, set upon their guard, and a most desperate struggle then took place between them and the guard. The train at the time was proceeding at a slow rate owing to the permanent way about Panoli having been recently repaired after the floods, and a number of prisoners taking advantage of this opportunity and having disabled and disarmed the guard, jumped through the carriage windows taking with them in their flight four or five rifles and a quantity of ammunition. As soon as the men had escaped, an alarm was raised, and the train was brought to a standstill. One of the policemen was found in the carriages in a precarious condition, and he died from the effect of the injuries inflicted by the convicts before he reached Surat. The Police Jemadar in charge of the party was also badly hurt, while the other members of the guard were also maltreated. No news had been received of the capture of the escaped convicts in the neighbourhood of Panoli.

THE Director of Public Instruction, Bengal, has issued a circular to the effect that in *Patshalas* under District Boards, not more than 5 percent of the total number of students should be allowed to read free, including Government scholars.

VERY heavy rain is falling in Bombay, and many portions of the city are flooded.

Thursday, 3rd September.

THE Madras Chamber of Commerce has addressed a letter to Government regarding the irritation caused to the mercantile non-official community of Madras by the manner in which the Income-Tax is being assessed there. The Chamber refers to the unpopularity of the tax, and to the consequent necessity of so levying it that the least irritation may be caused. The Commissioner of Income-Tax appears to have gained, says the *Madras Mail*, a rather unenviable reputation and the inquisitorial investigation which he endeavoured to introduce has been warmly protested against by the Chamber. The Commissoner was undoubtedly acting, as he considered, perfectly justly, but what has evidently roused the mercantile and non-official community is the Rule which he made insisting on the production at his office of books and accounts so that they might be scrutinised by himself and his *sheristadar*. As is rightly pointed out, this Rule is not warranted by any clause in the Income-Tax Act, the Commissioner alone being at liberty to examine the books. The Commissioner was induced to adopt the course which has been so keenly resented by the Chamber on the alleged ground that inadmissible deductions are made in the profit and loss accounts of the mercantile community generally—a rather sweeping allegation it will be admitted—but he seems to have forgotten, and he is reminded in the Chamber's letter that the merchant must "necessarily be the person best qualified to judge as to what represents the current valuations of the stock-in-trade assets, and also what constitute the necessary expenses for the efficient and successful management of the business he transacts." The Chamber advocates, and with reason, a system of composition, whereby the scrutiny of the books would be obviated.

A VERNACULAR contemporary of Barisaul, says that during his visit to the Barisaul Jail, Sir Charles Elliott saw a prisoner preparing *mocha* and asked Assistant-Surgeon Kunja Lal Sannyal what it was. On learning that it was a delicious article of food with the Bengalis, His Honor turned to the Magistrate and enquired if he had ever tasted it. "Possibly not" replied the Magistrate. At this juncture Kunja Babu advanced up to Sir Charles and solicited permission to present a few dishes of *mocha* for His Honor's table. Permission was graciously given and Kunja Babu sent four different dishes of *mocha* and *thore* on board the *Rhotas* which were tasted and spoken highly of by Sir Charles.

A RECENT number of a French scientific journal, contained a diagram and description of an extremely simple and easily made shower-bath that might with advantage be introduced in this country. It consists of a circular piece of wood with a hole in the centre, and this is placed on the floor on small feet. To this hole is attached a bent iron tube which passes under the board to its outer edge, and then is carried upwards some seven or eight feet, and bent over the centre of the board and finishes in a rose. Attached to this board is a bellows arrangement having at its top a board similar to the one at the bottom, and this top has a hole through which the bellows can be filled with water. When this has been done the hole is firmly plugged. When anyone desires a shower bath all that need be done is to stand on the upper board, when the weight of the person forces the water up the pipe and down through the rose. The bellows are kept from "wobbling" by means of three upright guides and are made in the form of a truncated cone, the smaller end being at the bottom, so that when they are squeezed together they pack away neatly. It is said that with a little ingenuity a *bhistis's mussuk* might be made to serve the purpose of the bellows very well.

A SIKH, named Ram Dass Singh, went not long ago to the Jorabagan thannah and made a statement to the Inspector to the effect that he had murdered his mother. He said that about ten days ago he met his mother at the Howrah Railway station and took her to Koilah Ghat, where she charged him with having neglected her, and left her to the mercy of strangers. An altercation arose, and he struck her a blow on the head with a heavy stick, and she dropped down dead. He then dropped the body into the river. He said he was also one of those connected with the great fight at Amritsar between the Sikhs and the butchers. He was a leading man among the Sikhs, and with his own hand had killed fifteen of the butchers. He was also implicated in the Benares riot, in which he took a leading part, and was one of those who led the fight against the Police in the recent Shambazar riot. The man was taken before the Commissioner of Police, to whom he made a similar statement. He was subsequently placed before the Chief Presidency Magistrate, who took down the statement and remanded him to custody, pending the report of the Police Surgeon on the state of the man's mind.

Friday, 4th September.

NEW rules for the regulation of sport in Government forests in the Central Provinces have been framed. The poisoning or dynamiting of rivers, streams, or tanks is prohibited, and no hunting, shooting, fishing, netting, or setting traps or snares will be allowed during the free season, except under a permit. The letter will only be valid for the district in which it is issued, unless wounded game escape into an adjoining district, or circle. It is issued gratuitously, is not transferable, and does not authorise the destruction of some specified birds. The close season is fixed as follows:—For stand-grouse, 1st October to 31st May; pea-fowl, jungle-fowl and spur-fowl, 1st March to 30th November; spur-fowl, partridge, quail, bush-quail, bustard quail, bustard, and like-florikan, 1st May to 30th November; squarred-goose, goose teal, whishthing teal, and grey duck, 1st June to 30th November; and bison (cows), sambar (does), and chetul (does), the whole year.

MR. Hoffmann, of Messrs. Johnston and Hoffmann, recently undertook a journey from Darjeeling into the heart of the Himalayas, and in the course of a month's trial, he made his way round Kinchinjunga, and managed to get a photograph of the mammoth mountain from the further side, where a photographic camera had probably never been carried before.

AT the annual meeting of the British Medical Association Sir Spencer Wells, opening a discussion on "The Disposal of the Dead," said that during the past eleven years since he brought the subject before the members of the Association, public opinion had considerably ripened in favour of cremation. In 1890 land was bought and a crematorium erected at Woking. In March 1885, the first body was cremated there, two others being similarly disposed of in that year. In 1886, ten bodies were cremated; in 1887, thirteen; in 1888 twenty eight; in 1889, forty-six; and in 1880, fifty-four. The total number of cremations up to the present time was 212. Sir William Moore said he had examined officially the systems of burial in Bombay—the Christian, Mahommedan, (?) the Hindu burning method, and the Parsee method of leaving the bodies to be eaten by vultures. He came to the conclusion that the Christian mode of burial was the worst.

BRIGADE-SURGEON O'Dwyer believed that cremation would be useful for the army. In Malta, for example, the population was very thick, and the garrison was large. When soldiers died, a series of holes were made in the rock, bricked up, and the bodies interred. Dr. F. Parsons had investigated the sanitary condition of cemetries, and thought the alleged sanitary evils arising from the present method of disposing of the dead was extremly rare. Mr. Earnest Hart gave an account of a recent visit to Japan, where cremation was practically the rule. In Tokio they disposed of an average of thirty bodies every evening by means of cremation, and public opinion was in favour of the system. On the motion of Sir Spencer Wells and Dr. Nunn, resolutions were agreed to disapproving the present system of burial, and asking that public authorities should be encouraged to obtain power for the erection of crematoria out of the public funds.

A STRANGE story has, says the *Times of India*, just come to light about a gang of swindlers in Bombay. A man called on a certain cashier and informed him that a friend of his had a large amount of jewellery, the property of a Chief at Kolhapur, who was in temporary difficulties, and was anxious to dispose of the said jewellery at a low price. The jewellery was shown to the cashier who took the bait, and agreed to purchase the articles, either for his firm or for himself, for the sum of Rs. 15,000. On Saturday evening, according to pre-arrangement, the cashier went to a bungalow in Parel, taking with him some Rs. 15,000 belonging to his firm. He was met by the man who had first offered him the jewellery for sale, and was then introduced to a second party who was presented as having the articles in his custody. A servant was called who dug up the box containing the jewellery from under the floor of the room, and after paying the money, the box was handed over to the cashier. Shortly after leaving the bungalow with his prize, the latter was pursued by some one shouting.—"Thief, thief, *puckaro, puckaro*," whereupon he became frightened, threw away the box, and ran off to avoid arrest. Next morning he again visited the bungalow, only to find it empty. The story runs that the unfortunate cashier on informing his employers of the loss has been threatened with proceedings for criminal breach of trust and misappropriation in respect to the sum of Rs. 15,000. It has been stated that owing to the absence of some necessary provision in the Penal Code, the police have no power to prosecute this gang of swindlers. Strange!

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Saturday, 5th September.

THE *Pall Mall Gazette* says:—A pretty story of the late Emperor Frederick is told in one of the German papers. Some years ago, shortly before the death of the old Emperor of Germany, a tall, handsome gentleman jumped into a third-class carriage of a local railway at Berlin just as the train was leaving the station. An old flower-seller, with a basket of newly cut hyacinths, was the only other occupant of the compartment. He asked the old dame to sell him a bunch. Its price was a penny, but as the gentleman had no coppers and the old woman no change, not having sold any of her goods yet, she was paid with a mark piece, which, as she said at once, was a thing that had never been heard of before in a third-class railway carriage. Presently the stranger and the flower-seller were deep in conversation, and it turned out that the poor woman was the bread-winner of a family of four. Her son was crippled, her grand-daughter a little school girl, and her husband had for some months past been out of work, since a new railway official had dismissed him as being too old to do much work. The stranger then suggested that she should apply, on her husband's behalf, to the railway authorities. "That is no good whatever," she replied, as she wiped her tears with her apron, "if you haven't the Pope for your cousin nowadays, you can't get anybody to listen to you." "Then try the Emperor," the stranger went on. "Alas!" she sighed, "if the old gentleman was allowed to see the petitions that are sent, it might do some good, but he does not get to know about us poor people." "Well, then, let your husband write to the Crown Prince." "Yes," she said, "he might do that," and she would tell him so as soon as she had sold her flowers. By this time the train had got to the terminus, the old dame bundled out her basket, and noticed with astonishment that the officials and the crowd on the platform looked at her carriage and saluted and cheered. "What's up," she asked. "Why, the Crown Prince was in the same compartment with you!" Then the flower-seller held her head high and told every syllable of what had happened to the delighted crowd. Her flowers were sold before five minutes were over, and a fortnight afterwards her husband was at work again in his old place.

THE official *Gazettee* of Portugal publishes an order from the Foreign Minister that the convention between the British Government and the Portuguese States in India, regarding the Customs Union, monetary exchange and the extradition of criminals, which was a part of the Anglo-Portuguese Treaty, dated 26th December, 1878, would cease to be in force from 15th January, 1892, as it has not recieved public approbation.

IT is understood that the Punjab Government are disposed to act in a liberal spirit towards the Simla Municipality in the matter of the water-works extension and the much-needed completion of the sewage scheme. The cost of these projects has now been fixed at Rs. 7,10,000. Towards this sum the Government of India has been asked to make a grant of Rs. 3,00,000, the Local Government offering to bear the full charge of establishment, supervision and other incidental charges (Rs. 80,000) and to lend the balance at 4 per cent, without insisting upon a sinking fund being provided. The conditions which it insists upon are that the details of the water-works scheme shall be settled in the local Public Works Department and the work of construction be carried out by that agency.

AT the Mansion House banquet Lord Salisbury said he had never known a time when the waters of the political sea presented a more unruffled appearance. Bulgaria and Servia are once more girding themselves for a fight: and the relations of Turkey and England are said to be exceedingly strained. Even while the French officers were drinking peace and good-will between England and France, French and Russian diplomats must have been putting things in train in South Eastern Europe which might easily lead to ugly complications. The visit of the young King of Servia to St. Petersburg has been very brief; but it means, if it means any thing, the surrender of Servia's independence to the Czar, and uncompromising hostility to Bulgaria as at present governed. The other direction in which the activity of French and Russian diplomats has been employed, is in stirring up anew the old grievance of the British occupation of Egypt. The Sultan must be aware that, in reviving the Egyptian question, he is playing into the hands of France and Russia, but it is clear that Russian influence is at present predominant at the Porte. Everything points in the direction of an attempt on the part of France and Russia to bring Turkey over to their side, and with this ally to settle the Bulgarian question as the Czar would wish, and the Egyptian question as France and Turkey would desire.

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THE INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.

(210, BOW-BAZAR STREET.)

(SESSION 1891-92.)

LECTURE by Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F. C. S., on *Monday*, the *7th Inst.*, at 5 P. M.
Subject: Arsenicum.

LECTURE by Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, on *Tuesday*, the *8th Inst.*, at 7½ P. M.
Subject: The Galvanometer. The Current Nature of Voltaic Electricity.

LECTURE by Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F. C. S., on *Wednesday*, the *9th Inst.*, at 5 P. M,
Subject: General Properties of the Metals and their Classification.

PRACTICAL CLASS in Chemistry under Babu Ram Chundra Datta, F. C. S., on *Thursday* the *10th Inst.*, at 4½ P. M.

LECTURE by the Rev. Father Lafont, S. J., C. I. E on *Thursday*, the *10th Inst.*, at 7½ P. M.
Subject: The behaviour of the Barometer, especially in tropical countries and during Cyclones.

LECTURE by Babu Mahendra Nath Ray, M. A on *Saturday*, the *12th Inst.*, at 2½ P. M.
Subject: Integral Calculus, Rectification of Curves.

LECTURE by Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F. C, S. on *Saturday*, the *12th Inst.*, at 4 P. M.
Subject: General Properties of the Compounds of the Metals with the non-metallic Elements.

PRACTICAL CLASS in Chemistry under Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F. C. S., on *Saturday* the *12th Inst.*, at 5 P. M.

MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, M. D.,
September 5th, 1891. *Honorary Secretary*

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1891.

LIBERTY OF THE PRESS.

GREAT is journalism, says Carlyle. "Is not every able Editor a ruler of the world, being persuader of it; though self-elected, yet sanctioned by the sale of his numbers?" The responsibility of a ruler is necessarily very great. There are rules which guide him, there is law which controls his actions. "Law," say the inspired sages of the Veda, "is the king of kings far more powerful and rigid than they, nothing can be mightier than law." The law of the land allows great liberty of speech to this self-elected ruler, but the moment he exceeds the limits set to him, law asserts its authority and brings him back to reason.

But what is this liberty which is conceded to a journalist? What is a correct definition of the expression "Liberty of the Press"? We find it nowhere clearly defined. It is entirely of English origin, and English jurists alone can enlighten us on the subject. Lord Kenyon delivered some remarkable opinions, we are told, as to the difference between license and liberty, stating that, while the liberty of the Press was dear to Englishmen, its licentiousness was odious. That liberty he defined to be neither more nor less than this, that a man may publish anything which twelve of his countrymen think is not blameable. Lord Mansfield described this liberty as the power of publishing without a license, subject to the law of libel. It is clear from this that a cut and dry definition of the liberty of the Press is impossible. Volumes upon volumes have been written on the subject, but nothing definite has yet been laid down. From a practical point of view, however, there cannot be any great difficulty in comprehending the true meaning of this expression. State your opinion freely and unreservedly, without being blinded by passion, and never forgetting, even in your excitement, the respect which is due to authority. Your sentiments should be expressed in language temperate and respectful. Above all, nothing in your writings should exceed the limits of propriety and justice.

We are perfectly aware of what one of the most eminent philosophers of the present century, whose writings have exercised the deepest and the widest influence on modern political opinion, has said regarding the limits of the liberty of thought and discussion. His remarks are worth quoting at the present juncture:

"Before quitting the subject of freedom of opinion, it is fit to take some notice of those who say, that the free expression of all opinions should be permitted, on condition that the manner be temperate, and do not pass the bounds of fair discussion. Much might be said on the impossibility of fixing where these supposed bounds are to be placed; for if the test be offence to those whose opinions are attacked, I think experience testifies that this offence is given whenever the attack is telling and powerful, and that every opponent who pushes them hard, and whom they find it difficult to answer, appears to them, if he shows any strong feeling on the subject, an intemperate opponent. But this, though an important consideration in a practical point of view, merges in a more fundamental objection. Undoubtedly the manner of asserting an opinion, even though it be a true one, may be very objectionable, and may justly incur severe censure. But the principal offences of the kind are such as it is mostly impossible, unless by accidental self-betrayal, to bring home to conviction. The gravest of them is, to argue sophistically, to suppress facts or arguments, to misstate the elements of the case, or misrepresent the opposite opinion. But all, even to the most aggravated degree, is so continually done in perfect good faith, by persons who are not considered, and in many other respects may not deserve to be considered, ignorant or incompetent, that it is rarely possible, on adequate grounds, conscientiously to stamp the misrepresentation as morally culpable; and still less could law presume to interfere with this kind of controversial misconduct. With regard to what is commonly meant by intemperate discussion, namely, invective, sarcasm, personality, and the like, the denunciation of these weapons would deserve more sympathy if it were ever proposed to interdict them equally to both sides; but it is only desired to restrain the employment of them against the prevailing opinion: against the unprevailing they may not only be used without general disapproval, but will be likely to obtain for him who uses them the praise of honest zeal and righteous indignation."

With due deference to what John Stuart Mill says on the subject, we are bound to remark that an opinion expressed moderately and respectfully carries greater weight than one pronounced insolently or defiantly.

In the course of discussion on the Native Press Bill in 1878, Sir John Strachey made some valuable observations regarding the subject under notice. "Liberty of the Press means," he observed, "liberty of discussion, liberty for the free expression of thought and opinion. But liberty does not mean unbridled license; it does not mean unlimited permission to let loose on the land a never-ending stream of abuse of all the institutions by aid of which Society is held together; abuse of those things respect for which is indispensable for the preservation of the lives and property of every one; abuse of the Government, of the administration of justice, of the whole English race, and of all it does or desires to do." Respect for the liberty of the Press does not certainly require use of intemperate or disrespectful language towards the Government. The honest journalist is perfectly free to give expression to his opinions, to discuss the action of the Government and its officers, to advocate those measures and doctrines of which he approves, and to censure those that he condemns; but the limitations under which he may do this will in no respect differ, said Sir John Strachey, from those that apply in England. These limitations are thus expressed by a distinguished English judge:

"The public journalist is entitled to canvass the acts, the conduct, and the intentions of those who may be entrusted from time to time with the administration of the Government by the Crown. He is entitled to canvass and, if necessary, to censure those acts. He is entitled to comment on, canvass, and, if necessary, censure the proceedings of Parliament. He is entitled to criticise and condemn the acts of public men. He is entitled to point out any grievances which he may think the people labour under, and urge for their removal, and suggest what remedies may occur to him for the purpose. He is entitled not only to publish, but to comment on, to criticise, and, if necessary, to condemn the conduct of judges and their decisions; nay more, even the verdict of juries are not exempt from fair and reasonable criticism. * * * I have told you within what limits a journalist may exercise his opinion and his talents; but I should tell you also the things which he is not permitted by law to do. He must respect the existence of the form of Government under which he enjoys and exercises those very extensive rights and privileges to which I have referred. A public journalist must not, either covertly or openly, devote the pages of his journal to overthrow the Government. He must not sow disaffection and discontent generally throughout the land. He may, as I said, comment on the acts of the Government and criticise them severely; he may, as I said, canvass and criticise proceedings in Courts of Justice, and the conduct and demeanour of the judges who preside; but he must not devote his journal to the purpose of bringing the administration of the law generally into contempt, and exciting the hatred of the people against the law; neither can he legally devote the pages of his journal to excite animosities between different classes of Her Majesty's subjects."

An attempt has been made here to give a judicious statement of the law. Here are laid down certain tests of what is permissible to a journalist under the settled constitution of England, and if we bear these tests in mind, the perils of journalism may, to a great extent, be avoided. The principles laid down above are those by which the British Government has always desired to be guided in this country also. They are principles by which its action has been guided in the past, and by which it will continue, we are sure, to be guided in its relations with the Native Press.

Viscount Cranbrook, also, in his despatch on the Press law, in 1878, made some very sensible remarks on the attitude which should be taken by Government towards the Native Press, and these remarks are particularly applicable to the present time. 'No criticism of Government', his Lordship observed, 'or its measures should be discouraged if there is reason to think that it has been dictated by an honest desire for improvement. All the most experienced Indian administrators have felt that the great difficulty of Indian administration is the difficulty of ascertaining facts of social condition and political sentiment; and the vernacular Press has always been considered one valuable means of getting at these facts, as is shown by the careful attention given by your Excellency's Government, by that of your predecessors, and by this office, to the translated extracts from Native newspapers which are regularly supplied to you. Open or covert exhortations to disaffection cannot be allowed to be addressed to an excitable population, but mere censure of the officers or of the measures of Government, even if captious, ought not to be repelled. I agree with your Excellency, that there is some danger of the Native Press being employed as an engine of extortion, and that this abuse should be prevented, but neither European nor Native officials should be encouraged to exhibit too great sensitiveness, even under unreasonable blame.'

There is one danger which a journalist must always guard against. There is an intense craving for news in the native public. This craving must be satisfied, or the journalist's occupation is gone, and he is starved to death. If the news given be sensational, the journal which furnishes it is in great demand. That paper is pronounced to be dull, which does not contain sensational writings. Anything is more acceptable than dulness, and to be cautious is always to be dull. Dulness in a journalist means his starvation and death. Hence a culpable desire to publish news which turns out to be incorrect, and to express opinions upon such

unreliable information. If publicity is given to facts which are not verified, the mischief done to the public is simply incalculable, and the opinions formed on false data often prove to be disastrous in their consequences. 'A critical conjuncture not only generates an extreme desire for news on the part of the public, but an excessive tendency towards strong writing on the part of the public instructor. The excited journalist naturally throws out at such times the angry sparks of his peculiar national tendencies with a freedom which, however gratifying to himself, cannot be otherwise than embarrassing to the State.' To give publicity to facts without verifying them is a dereliction of duty to the public and the State, and no respectable journalist ought to give credence to reports which are not well-founded. The task we know is extremely difficult, but if we wish to conscientiously do our duty we must make every endeavour to loyally filfil it by following truth and justice.

HIGHER TRAINING FOR THE YOUNG.

"THE Society for Higher Training of Young men," which had for some time been in its embryo, has at last budded forth into full existence and the event was celebrated by a well-attended public meeting at the Town Hall on Monday last. The programme of higher training includes physical, moral and literary culture, and the three departments have been placed under the presidency of Mr. Harry Lee, C. S., Babu Protap Chunder Mozumdar and Babu Bankim Chunder Chatterjee, than whom it would be difficult to fix upon three more capable and willing representatives of the respective departments. A series of lectures in furtherance of the objects of the Society had been arranged last year, which ended in a conference of those for whose benefit the lectures were intended. Provision for pure and rational recreations for the young is its chief object, and a strong Committee has been appointed to devise ways and means. The Town Hall meeting was held for making the objects of the Society known to the public and for completing its organisation.

The chair was taken by the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Tottenham, who in opening the proceedings said that the Society was one which appealed to the sympathy and hearty co-operation of all who desired to see the moral and physical improvement of the rising generation of Bengal, and also to see that intellectual advancement and continued progress were made more and more useful each year to themselves and to the State.

Babu Protap Chunder Mazumdar, who is taking great interest in the movement, explained the objects of the Society at some length in an eloquent speech. His and the other speeches have been perfunctorily reported and some have not been reported at all, which is a pity considering the importance of the movement that the meeting inaugurated. Babu Protap Chunder Mazumdar said :

The problem of dealing with the rising race of young men was everywhere difficult. It was especially difficult here in Bengal because of the universal change that had besieged every concern of life. Their manners were changing, their morals were changing, their household was changing, their institutions were changing, their religion was changing. In the midst of this chaos of change, which perplexed every one, but perplexed the young men more than any one else, it was a serious problem how the young ought to be trained. Education had partly solved the problem, but if it had solved the problem, it had in another side added to its difficulty, because he need point out that it was only the new ideas imbibed in schools and colleges that lie at the bottom of the universal transition to which he had allowed; but he submitted if education had produced the disease, education could only bring forward the cure. He did not mean merely the ideas that were learnt from books, the incessant fever for novelty that had entered into the blood of the youthful, the rage for breaking through all that was conservative, all that was customary which inflamed the brains of thoughtless young men. He did not mean that education. He meant a higher training, a moral training, a training of character, a training of what was deepest and highest in men's nature which made the young a law unto himself. Restraints at one time beneficial were now passing away, and he would be a thoughtless and reckless man who would re-establish all the old restraints which they had outgrown. Institutions like everything organic must change as circumstances changed, and he indeed would be a rash man who would keep the institutions of twenty centuries ago just as they then were; but restraints there must be; institutions should have to be kept, and to have it kept in a national basis, one of the basis of the moral, personal, and particular constitution of the Hindu mind. How could all these be done? Could it be done by the outside action? Could it be done by the mere reformer? It could only be done when the rising generation was so trained as to be a moral, social and religious law unto itself. This was higher training. It was not confined to the intellect. He need scarcely point out that it went deep into the feelings; it actuated the motives; it stimulated the consciences. That was higher training. The speaker in conclusion said that they had amongst them the Vice-Chancellor of the Calcutta University, who was full of zeal and sympathy. In last April they organised a committee of the moral improvement of young men, and later on during the last six weeks, an appeal was made to the young men themselves to organise themselves into a society, which might give effect to the resolutions of the committee for the moral improvement of young men. They were greatly encouraged by the unanimity between the educational authorities and the leaders of the Hindu society in Calcutta. For his own part he was grateful that the suggestion of the Director of Public Instruction was so readily taken up by men who had the right, the moral as well as the social right, to bind young men into a useful organization. The principal object of the Society was to combine instructive amusement with the relaxation from serious occupation. They all knew that the Lieutenant-Governor very lately gave two parties to young men with no other object than to please as well as to instruct.

The Hon'ble Justice Gurudas Banerjea, who is also taking warm interest in the movement, followed Babu Protap Chunder Mazumdar, and said :

As students they were receiving training at colleges to enable them to pass their University examinations. That training, it might well be hoped, would help in a great measure to prepare themselves also for that more arduous and continued examination that they would have to undergo when they entered the world outside the College walls; but at the same time from the nature of things, from the necessities of the state, from a variety of causes such as the smallness of time, the eagerness of their number assembled in classes, the large number of the subjects to be taught, the training that they recieved at colleges, might not be sufficient for all particular purposes, and the object of this Society was for the higher training of young men to supplement the training that they received at colleges for preparing them for that higher examination of which he had just spoken. The speaker then said that he congratulated them for having secured the services of Mr. Lee, the Chairman of the Calcutta Municipality, for the athletic section. Athletic exercise must become a portion of young men's study, because without it he could not make such progress. The speaker in conclusion said that the indirect object of this Society was to bring them into more close, more familiar, more friendly contract with high officials than they might expect otherwise, so that they might know that the perverse litigant and the pretentious supplicant for favours, with whom unfortunately they had frequently to come in contact, were not the real type of educated native society.

Mr. Lee, Moulvi Abdul Jubbar and last, though not the least, Babu Kally Charan Banerjea addressed the meeting in succession and tried to impress on their youthful audience the supreme importance of the movement which they called upon them to identify themselves with. Babu Kally Charan's speech, which was a powerful exhortation, has been completely lost to those who were not present at the meeting and would have cleared up many misunderstandings that have gathered round the movement.

The *Indian Mirror* takes exception to it as being more official than non-official, and appeals for radical reform in the Education Department. It should be borne in mind in this connection that the "Education Department" may be officially in the hands of Sir Alfred Croft, but the education of the country is certainly not under his control. Babus Protap Chunder Mazumdar, Kally Churn Banerjee and Surendra Nath Banerjea, who are the life and soul of the movement and are thoroughly identified with it, cannot by the utmost possible stretch of the imagination be brought under the official category, and it is a news indeed to hear that an independent gentleman like the first is the mouth-piece of any official however high. He may very properly be in the good books of officials and be glad to further their views when they can be furthered with advantage to the country and his countrymen. That is no reason why the movement should not succeed. Our contemporary cites the precedent of the Society for the Promotion of Pure Literature, which was inaugurated at Belvedere, under the auspices of Sir Stuart Bayley, puts it down as a failure and predicts a similar future for the Society now started. If the first is already a failure, which we have no reasons to believe, and the second follows suit, our countrymen will be more to blame than the officials who have been good enough to associate with us in furtherance of our interests. On both Committees there are more non-officials than officials, and it is absurd to urge that an official fillip stifles or frustrates these movements. If non-officials will not interest themselves more largely in them and thus guarantee their stability and success, the fault can scarcely be laid on official shoulders. The *Mirror* makes it a grievance that "it is no secret that the object of the Society is to put down rowdyism on the part of our youth." Little harm would there be if it were so. If the Society had no other object, and officials started it only with this object, they would be entitled to abiding public gratitude, for discipline is sadly lacking in our young men now-a-days, discipline which is the essence of greatness, discipline without which no character worth the name can be formed. Who would not fain forget the incidents at the Prince Albert Memorial Meeting not long ago and obliterate from the pages of national history the fact of the ruler of the province and other high officials having been bearded and insulted by people who ought to have known better. It is daily felt at home and out of home that the spirit of discipline is deplorably deficient in our young men, and he would be a true benefactor of the country who could restore it. If the new Society is of any use in this direction and no other, its establishment will not have been in vain.

The *Mirror* advocates the study of Vedic and Buddhistic literature as the basis of moral training, for religion, it says, must be its pedestal Tree. But with a catholicity of view that can tolerate Vedic and Buddhistic literature side by side as a religious basis, the complaint that the meeting should have been addressed by "a Christian Judge of the High Court, by a Brahmo Missionary, by the Christian Chairman of the Municipal Corporation, by a Mahomedan, by an Indian Christian, and only one by an orthodox Hindu" seems to be somewhat inconsistent. We are afraid a catholic religious basis, such as our contemporary wants to see established, is a feat hard to achieve, at least from the Hindu point of view, which he is good enough to advocate. As we have always said, we have not much faith in Tawney Bibles, but we would be glad to accept a system of moral training without a religious basis, if the latter cannot be had. And it goes without saying that it cannot be, having regard to the numerous contending religious systems and outsystems that have to be reconciled for the creation of a catholic basis. The religious teaching has per force to be left to private enterprise and to each community. All that the public as a whole or the State can do, is tolerably well represented in the programme of the Society, and to expect and demand more would, it appears to us, be unreasonable. We are free to confess that from strict Hindu point of view, partaking of forbidden refreshments is objectionable and should be left out when serious objection has been taken as a matter of fact. The promoters of the movement would secure larger sympathy and support from the Hindu community if they could so arrange their programme as to eliminate these objectionable features.

In one thing, however, we are completely at one with the *Mirror*. The Society, above all, should not set itself up as an unconscionable prude. If it did so it would carry its condemnation with it and it had better take the warning betimes. We cannot better describe the *Mirror's* objections on this head than in its own words :—

One of the Resolutions of this Section, as published in the newspapers recently, pledged the members of the Society to avoid in word, thought, and deed, every manner of impurity. As if to burlesque their courage, the members proceeded to explain their purpose thus : "We shall not, *if we can help it*, cast our eyes upon unchaste women, or look with impure motive upon any woman." The italics are ours. Why if they could help it, why not unconditionally? The members further pledged themselves not to keep company with men of loose character or of lewd speech, not to read impure books, not to take part in impure amusements, and, in short, to strictly guard their relations to the other sex. All this is very good; and, we hope, the young men will keep to their pledge. But we fear that the Resolution, recently adopted by them, will do but little good.

Our contemporary goes on to say :—

The Society, among other things, has resolved "to move the educational authorities that some thing may be done to omit impure passages from Sanskrit text-books, or at least, to direct Sanskrit teachers that these passages may not be taken up for explanation." It is quite likely that some Sanskrit dramas contain impure passages. But are the English text-books free from impurities? Most obscene suggestions are, for instance, to be found in Dryden.

Authors of *indices expurgatorium* were never popular in their day and prudery in literature and the arts *will not* do. Sanskrit is by no means the only offending literature, nor the most. A correspondent who has taken some pains over the matter informs us that the relative proportion of indecencies in English and Sanskrit text-books of the University is 10 to 1. So these matters had better be left alone. Over-zeal may furnish rocks and shoals ahead that should be carefully and skilfully avoided so that the barque may not founder before it is well launched of its voyage. Extremes are always bad and judgment has to be tempered down or toned up to the proper standard.

THE FINANCIAL POSITION.

THE financial position of India as disclosed in Sir John Gorst's Budget Statement, in the House of Commons, shows some slight improvement in the situation expounded by Sir David Barbour in March last. It will be remembered that the Finance Minister in his Budget for the current year reckoned on a surplus of 2¾ crores of rupees for 1890-91, but the Under-Secretary of State told us, the other day, that the final surplus of the year exceeded 3½ crores in round numbers. Sir John congratulated the Government of India on the great and extraordinary growth of the surplus of the past year every time it came under review; but in the same breath he was constrained to admit that the bulk of the surplus was due to the alteration in exchange, which raised the value of the rupee and enabled the Government of India to save about two crores. A large part of the rest, it must not also be forgotten, was owing to short expenditure under the head of Special Defences. This was, we need hardly say, expenditure postponed and not saved. As regards the saving of two crores caused by the action of the American Congress, Sir John Gorst had the good sense to admit that the rise in silver resulting from the American legislation was fictitious. He stated in plain terms that the exchange value was an element of great uncertainty in Indian finance and that no wisdom or caution could possibly provide against that danger. In order to make the real meaning of this statement clear to his audience, Sir John adduced some instructive figures. In April 1890 the price of bar silver in London rose, and in September it had advanced from 43⅜*d.* per ounce to 54⅝*d.* Then the price fell to 45*d.* in the middle of November, and had remained there ever since. The optimists, who lay so much stress on the large surplus of 1890-91, should carefully bear in mind the fact that the greater part of it was due to a mere accident.

With regard to the current financial year, it will be remembered that the surplus estimated in March last, was only 11½ lakhs, but Sir John Gorst was able to announce that it was now estimated at 39½ lakhs. It should be carefully noted that of the falling off in the position of the Indian revenue, more than a crore is accounted for by the fall of the rupee, and that there is a decrease of 36 lakhs in the opium revenue. Sir John Gorst called the attention of his hearers to some figures which contrasted the revenue and expenditure of the year ending 31st March 1889, with the estimated revenue and expenditure of the current year. A comparison of the figures of the current year with those of 1888-89 shows that the revenue has increased by 240 lakhs and that the expenditure has risen by 233 lakhs. It will thus be seen that there has been an improvement in the financial position of 7 lakhs in three years—very trifling sum compared with the total revenue and expenditure of India. We have certainly no good reason for congratulating upon this infinitesimal improvement. Sir John Gorst, however, pointed out that there had been an increase in every single item of revenue except opium, in regard to which there had been a decrease of 64½ lakhs, and that the largest increase was in the land revenue, which shows an improvement of more than a crore. Sir John declared in emphatic terms that it was to the continuous growth of this item that the House must look for the general soundness of Indian finance. There can be no doubt that the sheet-anchor of Indian finance is the land-tax, which brings in something like 20 crores net annually. This source of revenue ought to be carefully looked after. All discriminating and thoughtful persons will agree with Mr. Samuel Smith and Sir Roper Lethbridge in thinking that the general increase in the land-tax in a purely agricultural country like India, where more than 80 per cent. of the population depend upon the soil for the means of their subsistence, must not be considered an unmitigated gain. Both these gentlemen strongly condemned the present system of revising the land revenue assessment every thirty years, and insisted on the desirability of extending throughout India the principle introduced into Bengal by Lord Cornwallis of a permament settlement. Mr. Samuel Smith, in explaining the injurious effects of a periodical revision of the land revenue demand, pointed out that in the temporarily-settled provinces of India, as in Ireland, the people were afraid to improve the land, because they lived in terror of having the rent raised upon their own improvements. Mr. Smith observed :—"We should never see India in any way protected against famine until we granted a permanent land-settlement all over the country. India depended upon irrigation almost as much as Egypt, but the best mode of irrigation was to make tanks and wells. But so long as the land was re-assessed every thirty years the making of tanks and wells was practically prevented, and we were to a very great extent standing in the way of those improvements which were necessary to make the land of India maintain the people of India. If we made a permanent settlement of the land all over the country we should do more to attach the people of India to our rule than could be done in any other way. Some thirty years ago Lord Canning came to the conclusion that there ought to be a permanent settlement of the land-tax, and he wrote home on the subject to Lord Halifax, the then Secretary of State for India. After quoting the well-known passage in Lord Halifax's (then Sir Charles Wood) despatch in which he expressed his concurrence in Lord Canning's opinion, Mr. Samuel Smith went on to say :—"It was nearly thirty years since that despatch was written, and yet he found the land-tax raised now in the same way as in the time of Lord Canning and Lord Halifax. The land of India was greatly overcropped and under-manured, it was nearly all used up, and the land not used up was a miserable jungle soil. * * * The people were now wholly thrown upon the land. He believed he was within the mark when he said that 90 per cent. of the people of India lived directly upon the soil. Only one-sixth of the people of Great Britain drew its subsistence from the soil. It was simply, therefore, a matter of life and death to bring out of the land everything which could be drawn from it." We subscribe to every word in the foregoing passage. A recognised high authority on agricultural matter like Sir James Caird, in commenting on the increase of population that has taken place in this country during the past decade, has expressed his deliberate opinion that if the means of subsistence in India are to keep pace with the continually growing number of mouths to be fed, the boon of a permanent settlement must be conferred upon the people. The question is one of vital importance and demands the most serious attention of every one connected with the administration of India.

Sir John Gorst, of course, took a rose-coloured view of the financial position of India, but he was driven by the very force of facts that its finances were exposed to perils from which the finances of England were exempt. He clearly saw the dangers arising from the uncertainty of exchange and the threatened abolition of the opium revenue, as also from increasing military expenditure. He expressed the hope that the military expenditure was coming to succeed, and that the special defence works were nearly completed. We wish we could accept this view. The military expenditure has been steadily increasing since the close of the Afghan War. As Mr. Maclean has pointed out, during the eleven years that followed the Afghan War there has been an increased charge for military purposes in India of 4 crores a year, and that increase of expenditure has now reached 6 crores. Last year 21 crores, or the whole sum derived from the land-tax, were expended upon the Army, the largest amount ever reached, and in this sum, it must be remembered, was not included what was spent on special defences and strategical railways. These railways, which are of no mercantile value and do not even earn enough to pay their working expenditure, are about to be extended in various directions at considerable cost. Then, Sir John Gorst himself admits that there is, besides the special defence works, always the danger of having to expend large sums of money in additional and fresh ordnance stores. He said :—"It seemed that no sooner was one weapon settled and adopted for the Army than within a few years it was succeeded by another, entailing the necessity of constantly rearming the troops in India; and to incur unexpected expenditure of this kind was one of the great trials of a Finance Minister." So, what hope is there that the military expenditure will not continue to increase steadily as it has done since the Afghan War? Then, Sir John also admits that the Indian revenues are always liable to be disturbed by famine and war. In these circumstances we agree with Sir John Gorst that the condition of Indian finance is hopeful and prosperous. The financial position of India would be satisfactory if there were no wars, no famines, no abolition of the opium revenue and no fall in the value of the rupee.

Latest News and Notes.

ACCORDING to a Simla telegram His Excellency the Viceroy leaves Simla on Wednesday, October the 14th, and will perhaps visit Kashmir and halt for a few days at Kapurthala on his way back. His Excellency will then move southward, eventually arriving at Calcutta about the end of November. The details of the tour, so far as is known, have not been published yet.

SIR JOHN EDGAR left town for Darjeeling yesterday.

THE Bengal Provincial Conference will be held on the 29th and 30th October.

WE are glad to learn that the foundation-stone of the mill buildings of the Bengal Spinning and Weaving Co., Limited, will be laid on the 24th instant at Mahesh, near Serampur. This is a genuine native enterprise and its career will be watched with interest. We wish the young company all success.

APPLICATION will be made this morning to the Vacation Bench of the High Court, for the transfer, to some other district, of the trial of the accused in "Dacca Jury Bribery Case."

MR. KIMBER has written a long and elaborate note on Mr. Baldwin Latham's sanitation scheme for the town. Mr. Kimber had been highly complimented by the eminent Sanitary Engineer and has returned the compliment. The modest sum of a crore and seventy-five lacs of rupees is all that is wanted to give effect to the most acceptable of Mr. Latham's suggestions; but it is not stated whether they are to be condemned in another fifteen years or twenty as Mr. Clarke's have now been. The ratepayers and the representatives on the Commission should keep a sharp look out.

THERSITES in a Mirror:—

The *Proprietor*—"I'll tell you what it is Shardson, I'm getting sick of the 'ole Bloomin' show! *The Knacker* ain't selling a scrap—no notice took of us anywhere—not a bloomin' advertisement! And yet there ain't 'ardly a livin' Englishman of mark from Tennyson downwards, as we 'aven't shown up and pitched into and dragged 'is name in the mud!"

The *Editor*—"Don't let's throw up the sponge yet 'old man; let's give the dead' 'uns a turn—let's have a shy at Thackery, Browning, George Eliot, or better still, let's bespatter General Gordon and Cardinal Newman a bit—*That* ought to fetch 'em a few, and bring us into notice!"—*Punch*.

WE learn with deep regret that Babu Pramatha Nath Banerjea, a distinguished member of the Subordinate Judicial Service, is dead. He was only 48 years of age and diabetes followed by carbuncle did its work. As a Munsiff and as a Sub-Judge he did his work thoroughly well and was held in respect by his official superiors wherever he went. His uniform courtesy and suavity of manners made him highly popular with the general public, and his untimely death is mourned by many.

WE have also to announce with deep regret the death of Dr. Nilmadhub Haldar, a well-known physician of Calcutta. Able and experienced as a general practitioner, he made eye-diseases a speciality, in which his success was pronounced and his services were always in requisition. Latterly ill-health compelled him practically to give up his large practice, for he was one of the many victims of diabetes. But his death was sudden and unexpected. He was going about as usual after his return from Birbhum, where he had gone for the benefit of his health. A slight wound, received in a fall, however, induced gangrene which soon brought on the end. We offer his bereaved family our sincere condolence.

THE Parsi Fire Temple in Ezra Street presented an interesting spectable on Thursday morning, when followers of the Zoroastrian faith in Calcutta, assembled in large numbers to celebrate the fifty-second anniversary of its consecration. The interest of the occasion was greatly heightened by a ceremonial present of two massive silver urns with trays and censers, to the Temple. This was in commemoration of the services rendered to the community by the late Mr. Rustomjee Cowasjee, in building the temple for the benefit of his co-religionists. Mr. Manockjee Rustomjee, the present representative of the founder, accepted the present on behalf of the temple with expressions of gratitude towards the subscribers.

THE Telegraph Fraud case has ended in the conviction of all the accused. The case of Cohen terminated in the last Sessions and he has been sentenced to rigorous imprisonment for 3 years and 6 months, by the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Beverley.

THE Parsis of Bombay do not propose to sleep over the death of the two young ladies of their community, which created so great a commotion. The Government of Bombay having declined to do anything further in the matter, at a recent meeting of the Rajabai Tower Tragedy Committee, it has been unanimously resolved that a reward of Rs. 20,000 be offered, of which Rs. 10,000 are to be contributed by the Jame Jumshed Press, and that a public memorial be forwarded to the Secretay of State for India on the whole subject. The meeting was further of opinion that the House of Commons should also be interested in considering the matter. This question was, however, reserved for another meeting.

THE following is the full text of Mr. Justice Wilson's judgment in the Star Theatre Copyright case, which we referred to in our last issue:

This case comes on for settlement of issues and the question raised is whether the plaint shows cause of action. The facts alleged in the plaint are that the plaintiffs are proprietors of certain dramatic pieces which they have published and that the defendants have proceeded to act the pieces on the stage without the permission of the plaintiffs. I enquired of the plaintiffs' counsel during the argument in what sense they wished me to understand the statement that the pieces had been published by the plaintiffs and he answered that the pieces had been printed, and issued for sale. It is clear at Common Law no such suit can be maintained: that is established by the case of *Murray vs Elliston*: 3 B and R 657. On the other hand in England there is by statute such a right by which this suit is raised, the statutes raised are 3 and 4 William IV C. 5 and 5 and 6 vic C. 45: On the other hand it is clear that these statutes do not apply to dramatic pieces produced and published in India, that is I think plain from *Routledge vs. Tow*; 3 H. S. 181 and though the law of copyright has been introduced by Indian legislature yet the law as to acting rights has not been. As there is no law in this case I must hold the present plaint shows no cause of action and I therefore dismiss the suit with costs.

The dramatic literature of the country needs protection yet for development and here is ample room for legislative interference. Our copyright law is admittedly defective and its improvement would be something more to the purpose than fancy legislation on all inconceivable subjects.

THE *Times* commenting on the report that Turkey has opened the passage of the Dardanelles to Russian warships, warns France and the Porte that the presence of Russian men-of-war in the vicinity of the Suez Canal especially, will make England sit tight in Egypt. The Continental press is also discussing the reported opening. The *Times*' Paris correspondent states that Russia has purchased all the Suez Canal shares that are obtainable and thus there is great uneasiness. According to later intelligence, the report however proves to have been overdrawn. The Porte it is said has only permitted the passage of vessels belonging to the Russian Volunteer fleet, which are conveying convicts and time-expired soldiers. The *Standard* says that the relations between Turkey and Great Britain are very strained owing to Lord Salisbury's reply to the overtures of Rustem Pasha, the Turkish Ambassador in London, for the renewal of negotiations for British evacuationof Egypt.

THE International Oriental Congress was opened on Tuesday by Mr. Charles Taylor, Head master of St. John's College, Cambridge University, in the absence of Lord Dufferin, through indisposition. Thirty-seven different nationalities were represented at the Congress. In the opening address the Chairman dwelt on the services rendered by the Arabs to science, and said that the West still continued to learn from the East. Doctor Leitner said that the present Congress promised to be a great success, and he hoped it would be possible to found an annual Congress, each country to be visited by the International Congress. Mr. Fawcett read a paper on the pre-historical remains discovered at Bellary, in which he said that the remains were clearly precedent to the Hindu era. The Congress has appointed a small Commission to further examine the discoveries in all their bearings.

THIS is an age of shows, military displays and manœuvres. The English and Russian manœuvres over, France is showing a little bit of her prowess to the German Emperor in his supposed sick bed by way of giving him a gentle hint, as it were, that whatever His Majesty's own personal feelings may be, his people must not give themselves too much air, for France is not yet quiet dead. The scene of the show has been purposely chosen and the French Army Manœuvres on the German Frontier are said to be of unequalled importance. They began on Thursday. One hundred and twenty thousand troops under the greatest Generals of France take part in the manœuvres. Meanwhile manœuvres on the other frontier are progressing. The Emperor William has started from Berlin to be present at the Austrian Army, and to meet the Emperor Francis Joseph and Count Kalnoky. The German Press, commenting on the approaching meeting of the two Emperors, declares that another Sedan was never nearer than to-day, and that there is a possibility of the country having to defend German unity. General von Caprivi and Count Kalnoky are not expected to attend the manœuvres of the Austrian Army and a long conference has taken place between the two statesmen. The great feature of the Continental Army manœuvres is the use that is being made of the cycling corps for carrying despatches and acting as scouts.

IT is reported that Prince George of Wales has been appointed to the command of the *Anson*, having refused command of the Royal yacht *Osborne*, preferring active service. This speaks highly, indeed, of His Royal Highness's desire to be useful. As commander of one the best and well-equipped vessels in the British navy, His Royal Highness would have practically little to do where there are many capable subordinates and so little to do. From the 26th instant the Overland Mail will leave Bombay on Saturday instead of on Friday as at present. In consequence of this change the mail will leave Calcutta on Wednesday instead of on Tuesday, commencing from the 23rd instant.

BABU Abhoy Govinda Choudhuri, a zemindar of Tantibund, in the district of Pubna, has spent a sum of Rs. 1,975 in constructing a cholera ward in the Pubna Dispensary compound. The Government has conveyed to the gentleman its thanks for this act of liberality.

BABU Dwarkanath Pal having made over Government securities of the value of Rs. 5,000 for the encouragement of Sanskrit learning in Bengal, the Lieutenant-Governor has accepted the offer and approved the terms under which it is proposed to hold the trust. His Honor's thanks have been conveyed to Babu Dwarka Nath Pal for his public spirit and liberality. The Government has laid it down that the proceeds of the endowment should be devoted to the aid or maintenance of a *tole*, which should teach the Vedas and the Vedic literature only; that the *tole* should be under the private management of a body of Trustees, consisting of the Principal of the Sanskrit College, as an *ex-officio* Trustee, and of Babus Durga Das Basu, M. A., B. L., and Hemendra Nath Mitter, M. A., B. L., Professor Free Church Institution; that the grant should be tenable by the *Adhyapak* of the *tole*, who is to be a Bengali to be appointed by the majority of the Trustees; that the Principal of the Sanskrit College should be the administrator of the fund; and, lastly, on the occurrence of any vacancy among the Trustees (other than the *ex-officio* Trustee), the remaining Trustees should nominate, for the sanction of Government, a person to fill the vacancy, provided that one, at least, of the Trustees shall be a person who is not in the service of Government.

IT will be in the remembrance of our readers that the apprehended Sikh riot resulted in the Sealdah Magistracy issuing an order, after Police enquiry, that the community should be prohibited from going to, or staying in, a garden in Narkeldanga, where the Sikh community performed religious rites and ceremonies during every full moon. This order has been appealed against and a rule has been issued to show cause why it should not be set aside, as Justice Trevelyan characterised it as "a big order" and that while particular persons might be directed to abstain from doing particular things, a whole community could not. It has been contended and held that the direction to persons belonging to a particular religion from doing a certain act was not a direction which could be made under Section 144, Criminal Procedure Code. The fact of the case are shortly reported as follows:—

Some time back one Lukhi Narain Sing, a member of this community, forsook his own religion and embraced the Mahomedan faith on account of a Mahomedan woman to whom he got married. After a while he separated from her, and declared himself a Sikh once more; but the Sikhs, headed by the appellants, objected to receive him back into their religion, alleging as their reason that

once a Sikh became a Mahomedan he was to be considered an outcast from that religion for ever. Lukhi Narain, however, would not accept this decision, and collecting about twenty followers round him, declared his intention to go and worship the sacred flag during the next full moon. This flag is kept in a garden at Narcoldanga, where the Sikh community are in the habit of worshipping at every full moon in accordance with their rites, and the appellants fearing that Lukhi Narain's party would create a disturbance there, and that a breach of the peace was likely to occur, complained to the Deputy Magistrate of Sealdah, who ordered a police enquiry. The police reporting that this dispute between the two factions would result in a serious riot, the Deputy Magistrate passed the order appealed against. The appellants then put in an affidavit stating the serious inconvenience felt by the whole Sikh community in consequence of this order, but the Magistrate declined to rescind it. This order compels the whole of this community to abstain from the performance of any rites at the Narcoldanga garden for two months, during which the Magistrate asked the two factions to come to an amicable settlement.

SYED Amir Hossein and Mr. Lambert have given another illustration of the great tact and judgment for which they are alike distinguished. It appears that on Tuesday last some students of the Ripon College who had congregated before a "giant-show" booth were alleged to be obstructing the footpaths before the College premises and the constable of the beat in the usual *khairkhan* spirit rudely told him to "move on" and did sundry other things which resulted in a *fracas*. The erring boys were placed on their trial on somewhat serious charges and if convicted would have to be punished. They, however, took the more manly and praiseworthy course of tendering apology which was readily accepted by the head of the Police and the Magistrate and the case was allowed to be withdrawn. If the Police chose they might have carried matters to the bitter extreme. How different is this from the treatment that the poor Krishnagore, Jessore and Darbhanga students received under somewhat similar circumstances. It thus very much depends upon the Executive whether harmony should prevail between the rulers and the ruled. But for its happy termination the Ripon College case might be another sensation agitating the public for a good while. With a Magistrate given to *zid* and a head of the Police inclined to *hairan parshan* the result might have been different.

IT is stated that a despatch on the Assam Labour question will early be sent to England with the reports of the Committees which have dealt with the question. It will probably embody some suggestions for the future improvement of the Labour Act, which we trust will be commensurate with the pressing requirements to which public attention has frequently been drawn. Here is ample room for British philanthrophy to be at play. It is a wonder it should be so entirely confined to mill-labour alone.

MR. JUSTICE HILL has vacated his officiating appointment in the High Court in view of Justice Norris's return after the holidays. A correspondent of the *Statesman* writes about him :—"It is not a hidden fact, both in the Bengal and N. W. P. High Courts, that Mr. Hill is considered to be a sound and practical lawyer and one who would do credit to any Bench in this country, while a more affable, kind and courteous gentleman it would hardly be possible to meet with. His Christian piety, sincerity and justice, added to his other qualities, fully entitle him to be a judge and lawgiver over men, and it is sincerely to be hoped that when a permanent vacancy does occur in the Bengal High Court, the claims of Mr. Justice Hill will not be overlooked." We have no hesitation in subscribing to every word of this and would earnestly recommend his permanent appointment, should opportunity occur. On the occasion of his first appointment we were the first to object on the ground of deserving members of the local bar being available whose claims and merits should not be overlooked. We have had ample opportunity since of judging of his abilities and worth, and local considerations apart, we would welcome him as a desirable addition to the strength of the High Court. A contemporary has been pleased to characterise him as a "failure," though all who know him say, he is nothing of the kind. He may be somewhat slow in his anxiety to do justice as evenly as possible ; but he is possessed of a calm temperament and of sound judgment that are essential to impartial administration of justice. His uniform courtesy to the profession and litigants has justly made him popular and if he is not to return to Calcutta we bid him a regretful farewell. His appointment as Justice Straight's successor at Allahabad is considered probable, and if it is made we would congratulate the Allahabad Court.

IT is calculated that the tides on Saturday the 19th and Sunday the 20th instant, will be the highest on record, as the tables predict a height of 22 feet 11 inches, and 22 feet 10 inches respectively, for these two days. Between 2 and 3 P. M. on those days the river will probably top its banks, especially at Koilaghat. There were persistent rains last week.

ON the motion of Babu Surendra Nath Banerjea, at a meeting of the Corporation on Thursday last, the consideration of the question of the appointment of Head Assistant in the Chairman's office for six months on a salary of Rs. 500 per mensem, was postponed. The grounds for the adjournmeat were that the matter was still under the consider ation of the General Committee, and it was not desirable to anticipate the decision of that Committee in a question of this kind. It is stated that the General Committee is still considering the desirability of making the appointment, seeing that most of the duties of the Vice-Chairman cannot under law be delegated to any assistant. Supposing however the appointment is negative, still some relief ought to be forthcoming, for the Vice-Chairman is admittedly over-worked and there is work which others can do for him. If a paid assistant is objected to from the rate-payer's point of view, still some of the Commissioners might give a little of their time and attention in clearing off the arrears. It is understood that the General Committee and the Chairman are also considering this aspect of the question.

THE *Englishman* says that the authorities are considering the question of the establishment of a system of hall-marking for this country. This has been on wind long, and public opinion has been clearly and strongly expressed against it. It would be unwise to try to introduce here what is so unpopular and oppressive in England and so thoroughly uncalled for. Poor goldsmiths and silversmiths in the country will not be the only parties inconvenienced. The sufferings of their constituents will be the greatest by far.

LORD and Lady Hariss are in Simla on a visit. There have been festivities and gay doings in their honor and Sleepy Simla is glad to have broken its dull monotony and the same round of pleasures.

THE public are treated to piece-meal news of military railway undertakings, which would be intelligible in a group. We have noticed some of the items in another column. The latest is that it is intended to construct a new Railway from Peshawar to Michor during the ensuing cold season. This is the first step towards a Kabul river Railway.

THE difficulty of Government in promptly selecting a ruler for Manipur is said to be the large number of eligible candidates. As a contemporary observes that this ought give Government a liberal choice which it is to be expected will not fall on an ineligible puppet. The selection will take place shortly and Major Maxwell will act as Political Agent in the meantime.

THE proposal to amalgamate Chuadanga and Meherpur as one Sub-Division, has thrown the inhabitants of both the places into a flutter and representatives on each side have rushed to the print to advocate its respective cause, as the capital town of the Sub-Division. Chuadanga is a railway Station which Meherpur is not, and this will probably turn the scale. Government, however, knows administrative exigencies better than advocates and will do what is best. The amalgamation will effect some saving, it is said.

WE congratulate Mr. Umesh Chunder Batabyal on his officiating appointment as District Magistrate of Birbhum. He is a fully deserving and capable officer and his promotion is a matter of course in a sympathetic *regime* like that of Sir Charles Elliott. The statutories have had many of their standing complaints removed by His Honor.

THE hearing of the rule, obtained on behalf of Jadub Chunder Shaw, who was convicted and sentenced to pay a fine of Rs. 25, under Section 236, Act II of 1888, came on in High Court, on Wednesday, when Mr. Woodroffe appeared in support of the rule and Mr. Acworth showed cause against it. The case for the prosecution, as we informed our readers sometime ago, was that the applicant commenced to build a room on the third storey of his house without obtaining sanction from the Municipality, and also building a verandah to the same house without applying for sanction. His defence however was that he had commenced to build the room after he had obtained the sanction of the Commissioners and not before, and that he did not apply for sanction with regard to the verandah because it was an old one. He was, however, convicted and sentenced to pay a fine of Rs. 25. Their Lordships (Messrs. Justices and Gurudas Banerjea) after hearing both sides, set aside the order so far as the verandah was concerned and upheld the conviction with regard to the room, but reduced the fine to Rs. 5. This is an unsatisfactory state of affairs and there can be no doubt that the building regulations are telling very oppressively on the people. There should be no delay in their revision on a rational and practical basis.

THE *Morning Post* says :—"Calcutta is to have a new daily paper. It will be printed at the Office of the *Indian Planters' Gazette*, and the promoters intend that it shall put the existing local journals completely in the shade." Nothing very difficult in that if the promoters know their business. Calcutta at large has however heard nothing of the venture yet and would have thought that it was kept tolerably well supplied by its five Dailies. But there is always room for enterprise under proper conduct.

THE London Correspondent of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* thus writes about the *Bangabasi* case :—

In this prosecution, as in the Manipur muddle, the Indian Government is being condemned by papers of all shades of opinion. I will not quote, or refer to, the radical papers. Their principles necessarily make them object to any muzzling of the press. I will take two typical Unionist papers—the *Echo*, Liberal Unionist, and the *Globe*, Tory Unionist. The *Echo* considers the news to be of a "disturbing" character. It regards the authorities in Calcutta as having entered upon a hopeless task, and gravely questions the propriety of the step taken even if that step could be sustained. "All we can say now," it concludes, "is that a people which boasts of its freedom, and attributes its national greatness and prosperity to that freedom, should be infinitely cautious in destroying such freedom anywhere. And we question still more our ability to effectually extinguish the independence of the numerous vernacular newspapers of India. No more significant news than this has come from India, for years." The *Globe*, at the end of a long article, in which it plainly hesitates to strike but nevertheless does strike, remarks :—"It remains to some extent questionable, therefore, how far the Indian Government is prudent in directing a prosecution which may fail, and which must be disastrous if it does fail." After admitting the writer of the passages complained of may be "earning his wages like an honest man," the *Globe* continues : "It is always difficult to know when to take action in such cases ; and though action is sometimes absolutely inevitable,

despite even apparent inexpediency, it can never be thought about without many grave misgivings."

SIR Alexander Miller writes to a Bombay paper denying that he had anything to do with making out a case against the *Bangabasi*. He says he knew nothing about the prosecution until he saw it announced in the press. This seems very strange, considering that Sir Alexander is a member of the Executive Council.

THE *Pall Mall Budget* says :—

The prosecution of a leading vernacular paper in Bengal is the first serious measure which the India Government has been forced to take in order to vindicate the reform of the marriage law. The articles for which the owners and conductors of the *Bangabasi* are to be tried on a charge of sedition, were protests against the Age of Consent Act. That well-meant law has been made the occasion for furious denunciations of British rule as tyrannical and incredibly cruel. The British Raj, the numerous readers of the *Bangabasi* have been informed, means Government by brute force; and ignorant Bengalis were told that the English were directly responsible for the spread of disease and death. There is not the least doubt that the steps taken to punish these sedition-mongers are not only justifiable but necessary; on the other hand the trial, while it lasts, will only strengthen the opposition against the marriage Act; and we may look for a popular agitation and excitement which the authorities may find it difficult to control. And it will be more obvious than ever that the Act, necessary or not, was a measure which the disaffected section was certain to use as a watchword for sedition.

Again :—

We have at last come to the final Act in the tragedy of Manipur. The Regent and another of the brothers will be sent to the Andamans, while the Senapati and the Tongal General will be hanged. The decision of the India Government, announced after long and careful deliberation, is irrevocable; nor is it likely that its justice will be questioned. Even the Vernacular press will probably refrain from adverse comment. The prosecution of the *Bangabasi* will effectually prevent that paper from describing the execution as an act of blood-thirsty revenge, and may also serve to check the exuberant disloyalty of other native papers. But if the prosecution of the *Bangabasi* is necessary now, it was equally necessary five months ago.

These remarks do not describe correctly either the attitude of Government or of the Native Press. The recent State prosecution is certainly not an outcome of the Age of Consent Act, and it is clearly unjust to connect the one with the other. The Government wanted to assert a principle, and it was not from a feeling of vindictiveness that action was taken against the *Bangabasi*. It was necessary that the law of seditious libel should be clearly defined, and with this view the prosecution was undertaken. We have strongly condemned the intemperate and disrespectful language of the *Bangabasi*, but surely it should not be credited with ideas which it never dreamt of. Punish the breach of law by all means, but the Native Press should not be charged with a crime which never exists. Remarks such as those quoted above ought to make us more circumspect and careful. We are all interested in the maintenance of good order and the supremacy of the British Government, and it is our imperative duty to do everything in our power to strengthen that Government. Some of our English contemporaries speak inconsiderately of the exuberant disloyalty of the native papers. We all know this is false and unjust, bnt we must demonstrate the falsity and injustice of the remarks by the correctners of our conduct.

WE are glad to learn that "*A Brief History of Ancient and Modern India*" by Mr. R. C. Dutt, C.S. has been appointed by the Calcutta University as a text book for the Entrance Examination. The book is well spoken of.

LORD Wenlock in the course of his tour has taken the trouble of contradicting Mr. Caine's statement about famine in the Madras Presidency in his recent letter to the *Pall Mall Gazette*. His Excellency said :—

He understood that Mr. Caine came out to India last cold weather for a month, and that from experience acquired then he assumed it was in his power to lecture them on their duty here and call them to task on what he considered neglect of duty. It was rather appropriate that Mr. Caine's letter should have reached him there, because he had been able, and he was glad to be able, to see, from personal inspection, that almost every single word that was written by Mr. Caine was absolutely and maliciously untrue. The Governor then read Mr. Caine's letter in which he had stated that not only had a serious famine set in in Madras, but that the Madras Government had been grossly neglecting its duty. These two statements his Excellency begged most distinctly to traverse. There was not a single word of truth in either. The Governor then went categorically through all the points raised in Mr. Caine's letter,—to prove such accusations were baseless not one case of starvation had occured in Chingleput, where the death rate was normal. He quoted evidence to show that it could not be truly said that in the North Arcot district the people were dying by hundreds from starvation, though there were four cases of death from starvation. The Governor also alluded to the exaggeration about the cattle dying and about Government pressing the people for taxes. His Excellency averred that no pressure was being put upon the people; every consideration was being given to them. The information that Mr. Caine had obtained from a native correspondent was absolutely untrue, which the Governor proceeded to prove by quoting figures and facts. He challenged the native correspondent to prove his statements. His Excellency said he felt the greater indignation with Mr. Caine whose letter he again designated as an absolute and downright falsehood.

Mr. Caine is not likely to let His Excellency have the last word.

THE appointment of Mr. Pritchard, member of the Bombay Legislative Council, to the Viceregal Council is freely spoken of.

THE *Indian Mirror* at the instance of its correspondents as well as of its own motion lays serious charges against the management of the Eden Hindu Hostel of Calcutta. Our contemporary summarises the complaints thus, very likely in the words of some youthful complainants :

1—The economical and hoarding policy has so lessened the number of cooks and servants that meals are served with the most vexatious delay.

2 The Superintendent never goes his *'rounds'* to observe what the students are doing, as he used to do two years ago; so that (*a*) constant chatting and hubbub is going on in many rooms all day, (*b*) wicked boys are not checked in their course, and (*c*) strangers come into the premises unchallenged.

3 The water reservoirs, the drains, the previes, &c., are not well looked after.

4. The articles of food are generally stale (because cheaper) and innutritious.

5. Through want of proper vigilance, a gold Rotherham watch and chain, worth Rs. 250, have been extracted from the cash-box of a boarder, in broad daylight between 12 and 2 o'clock. Thefts are by no means rare.

6. As the food supply is deteriorating, the charges are increasing. Two years ago, the boarders were charged Rs. 11, and now with worse accommodation, they have to pay Rs. 12; only last year bread (in the place of rice at night) was charged an additional 8 annas, now it is double that sum.

7. The penny-wise and pound-foolish policy—A large sleepy staff is kept, devouring all the substance. Why is not the moderate pay of the Sibpore Boarding Officers here allowed? All additional income (from admission fee &c.) is squandered on book-cases, for which there are no books (!), and furniture (chest of drawers &c.). which are not distributed among the students.

8 The Superintendent is so slow in removing inconveniences, and the same grievances recur so often, that the boarders have lost all hope of proper remedy, and grown sullen.

9. On account of this shameful mismanagement, students are now loth to enter the Hostel, so that out of the 130 seats nearly 20 are lying vacant (causing a great loss of money) whereas two years ago, there were large crowds in search of seats.

10. Of the Secretaries, Rai Radhika Prasanna Mukerji Bahadur never sets his feet in the Hostel, while Pandit Nayaratna occasionally comes in for a short visit, which can hardly show him the real state of things.

If a tithe of all this is true there is much room for improvement and a special enquiry is urgently needed. An institution that to be useful must be popular, should not suffer thus. The *Indian Daily News* also supports these charges.

A SORT of fatality attends the Shambazar riot trials. The joint trial of the second and third batches of prisoners has had to be postponed *sine die* owing to the sudden illness of one of the jurors. The ailing juror in the first case has, however, recovered and it has been possible to resume it while the other is postponed.

THE second Madras meeting regarding the Small Cause Court Bill was a better success than the first. The meeting has condemned the Bill and it has been resolved to represent that the executive Government should not be in any way empowered to alter the pecuniary or other jurisdiction of Courts administering justice in Madras. The position of the meeting was strengthened by the receipt of a copy of a letter from the High Court to the Madras Government, which the public have demanded for weeks past without avail.

THE vacuum brake on the Eastern Bengal State Railway seems to be a perfect success, judging by the following account taken from a contemporary :—

A practical illustration of the value of the vacuum brake was afforded on the Eastern Railway on Thursday morning under somewhat remarkable circumstances. Inside the carriage there is a small disk attached to the side, and in the centre of this there is a small button, which, on being pulled down, brings the train to a standstill in a few seconds. Below the disk is placed a small printed notice explaining the use of the button and telling passengers that it should only be used in extreme cases, and warning them that if it was used only for amusement the penalty for this was a fine of Rs. 50. It should also be mentioned that the driver or guard can in a moment see from which carriage the train was stopped as the moment the button falls, a small red signal arm projects from the roof of the carriage. On Thursday morning the train left Ingoolah as usual, and, after having attained full speed, was suddenly brought to an immediate standstill between that station and Aranghatta. The guard and driver jumped off in a trice, fully expecting to see that something awful had been committed, and on going to the carriage found three passengers in it, one of whom was a Parsi. This man admitted that he, from curiosity, had pulled the button down, and added that he had not read the warning notice placed underneath.

The question of identity may not be capable of so easy solution in all cases, particularly at night. However no blessing is unalloyed with evil, and if the vacuum brake is as serviceable as it is claimed to be, crimes in trains in motion as well as preventible accidents ought to be few and far between. At the present moment there is a well-founded complaint that both are unpleasantly on the increase.

AT the instance of His Highness the Nizam of Hydrabad and on the application of Mr. Woodroffe, the Chief Presidency Magistrate of Calcutta granted a body warrant and a search warrant against one Alexander Malcolm Berry Saborjee, *alias* A. M. Jacob, on the charge of criminal misappropriation and criminal breach of trust. Jacob, it appears, had arranged for sale of a valuable diamond, called Imperial, to the Nizam for 46 lacs of rupees, and received twenty-three lacs of rupees on the understanding that the money would be refunded if the diamond was rejected. It was rejected not having come up to the standard of the model shown, and Jacob was unable to refund the large advance he had received. He is now supposed to be staying at Simla and the stone is supposed to be in deposit with the Alliance Bank there. A summons was therefore issued against the Bank to produce it. The case is in the hands of Mr. Jacob's solicitors already and Mr. Geddes informed the Magistrate on Saturday that his client is on his way to Calcutta and will surrender on his arrival. The *Indian Daily News* thus speaks of the proceedings taken :

The proceedings initiated in the Police Court yesterday about the diamond transaction in Hyderabad will, if carried out, most likely lead to some lively revelations. They involve a long chapter of history; and before the case is concluded, there will probably be several of the parties concerned who will wish the proceeding had never been begun. It is a case in which the "mirror will be held up to nature" in a light that it will be interesting to contemplate. The Bengal Gold Companies may possibly "pale their ineffectual fire" by comparison. There will be a great scandal, and revelations indicative of greed and folly not easily matched of late years.

THE report about the visit of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore to England next year, is about as true as that about the visit of the Maharaja of Durbhanga. Interested people spread these rumours for purposes of their own.

ANOTHER anti-foreign outbreak is reported from Ichang, China, where the property of foreign missionaries, has been burned by the mob. No lives, however, were lost.

LADY Alexander Wilson died in England on the 29th of August last. This news will be received with deep regret by the Calcutta Society where her ladyship's excellent qualities of the heart were widely known and appreciated. She was identified with most charitable movements of the day and was foremost to offer her services wherever relief of distress was in question.

THE *Broad Arrow* says:—"There is a very wide-spread idea that the Duke of Connaught is going to India next year as successor to Sir Frederick Roberts. Of course nothing has yet been definitely settled, and an emphatic contradiction of the report would no doubt be promptly given in official quarters. Such an appointment is, however, more than likely to take place, and India may serve as the final training ground of the Duke of Connaught prior to his eventually succeeding to what so many regard as his birthright—the Command-in Chief of the British Army." The Prince's advent in India once more will be welcomed with satisfaction. But according to another account His Royal Highness will have to remain at home to succeed to a Field Marshalship. Moreover, His Royal mother is said to be opposed to his return to India, specially if he is to be accompanied by the Duchess and the children.

AS announced before the High Court, in both its sides, closed for the *Puja* vacation on Wednesday. The Court offices close on the 12th instant and the Court re-opens on the 11th November. Mr. Justice Beverley took chambers in the Original Side on Thursday and will do so this morning and on Thursday next. When sometime ago a determined agitation was about to be started against commencement of the holidays full five weeks before the *Puja* the profession were assured that in future the vacation would not commence before the 15th September. The agitation was thus let drop. It looks however as if it will have to be recommenced with full vigour. The present system is scandalous and should not be long tolerated. Nine or ten weeks' holiday at a stretch in the pleasant season may be convenient to some who are anxious for their "run to Europe," but it is decidedly inconvenient to others. Moreover the vacation ought to be split up and there ought to be some respite during the dog days of summer. The *Bengalee* thus writes on the subject:

> Her Majesty's Judges are entitled to all the respect that we can shew them, but when they go wrong in their judicial decisions, or in their executive arrangements, it is the duty of the public and the Press to call attention to the matter. The Court has closed five weeks before the vacation. Is the profession benefited by it? We don't think so. The Attorneys who are supposed to share in the vacation are obliged to keep their offices open, and practically they do not get any holidays till after the Pujas, which means about six weeks in the course of the year. We believe it was understood that the High Court should not be closed for the Puja vacation till about the middle of September. But on this occasion the Court was closed on the 4th September. As the vacation, having regard to the time when it began, is highly inconvenient to the profession, so also it is prejudicial to suitors, whose interests have to be consulted above all other considerations. Those who have money to recover must wait for more than two months before they can file their plaint. If the Court was kept open for another fortnight, many would have been in a position to file plaints and obtain decrees under a certain summary form; but they must now wait for more than two months. The vacation, having regard to its duration and the time when it began, is highly inconvenient to the public and the bulk of the profession. It may be convenient to some of the Judges; but the Judges exist for the public and not the public for them, and public convenience must over-ride all other considerations. We cannot understand why the arrangements about vacation which obtain in Madras and Bombay should not be followed here. The Madras and the Bombay High Courts close twice in the course of the year, and on each occasion they have a month's holiday. The Judges and the public are saved the terrible inconvenience of attending Court in the hottest part of the summer months; and again about this time of the year, we believe they have a month's holiday. There ought to be uniformity of practice in a matter of this kind all over India; and if the Judges will not make arrangements which are satisfactory to the public and are consistent with consideration of public convenience, the Government of India should nterfere.

THE Hon'ble Mr. Justice Beverley and the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Amir Ali will sit as the Vacation Judges, except during the following Court and gazetted holidays:—Gazetted holiday on account of Mahalayas—Friday, the 2nd of October; gazetted holidays on account of Durga and Lakshmi *Puja*, including court holiday an account of Fateha Doaz Dahom—Thursday, the 8th of October, to Monday, the 19th of October; gazetted holiday on account of Kali *Puja*,—Monday, the 2nd of November; Court holiday on account of Bhratriditiya,—Tuesday, the 3rd of November; gazetted holidays on account of Jagatdhatri *Puja*,—Tuesday and Wednesday, the 10th and 11th of November. Motions and cases in which vakils are engaged will be heard on Mondays and Thursdays at 11 o'clock A. M. The office of the Appellate Side will close for the vacation from Friday, the 2nd of October, to Tuesday, the 3rd of November, both days inclusive.

ANTIQUARIANS are being once more exercised about the *locale* of the Black Hole. The find to the north of the General Post Office which was in high favour up to now and had been "preserved" at considerable expense, is at a discount owing to other finds in the neighbourhood. As the excavations for the new Collectorate buildings were proceeding, a grating was found and remnants of old buildings and rooms which are supposed to be some portion of the Black Hole. Large crowds are visiting the place every day.

MADAM Blavatsky's place is not to be allowed to remain vacant long, though perhaps it cannot be as worthily filled. Mrs. Besant, who has renounced her Secularist and Malthusian views, intends to come to India it is said, in December to propagate the doctrine of Theosophy among the Natives systematically.

GOLD companies have been put into Court as fast as they sprang up. *Baghmundi* was the first in order and *Jutput* and *Sonakhan* have been put into Court next. The Bengal Trust and Loan Company, which is perhaps not a purely gold concern has also been put into Court. The conversation that took place in the High Court on the order for winding up of the *Jutput* company under supervision of the Court, is instructive:—

> Mr. Justice Wilson: Do you mean to say that people were so insane as to take shares in a Company that they knew to be managed on such terms?
>
> Mr. Hill said that, unfortunately, it was a form of insanity that was very prevalent in Calcutta. All these Articles of Association in such Gold Mining Companies as the present one were taken from, a common form.
>
> Mr. Justice Wilson: Not a *common* form. Mr. Hill, but a very *uncommon* one. (Laughter.)

Bulls and bears are, however, still keeping the market so far as it can be done.

A RUMOUR has been afloat for sometime that the Amir of Kabul will honor us with a visit in April next. The *Englishman* sets this down as an illusion and we hope it is so. As our contemporary observes, such a visit would cost the Government of India several lakhs in sumptuary expenses alone, whereas a small mission might be sent to Kabul for a few thousand rupees, and the subjects under consideration might be discussed by a mission with advantage. As to the need of the latter we are no judges and do not pretend to comment. The last rainy visit did no much good that we know of.

Correspondence.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

London, August 5, 1891.

THE THREATENED FAMINE IN INDIA.

The *Daily Chronicle* remarked in a leader the other day that the reference in Parliament to the threatened famine in India was the most important of the Parliamentary Proceedings on that day.

I shall place before you the main points in a very long article in the *Times* and as interesting as long dealing as the gravity of the topic requires with the question of the threatened famine and that alone. You will thereby see the source of the information from which every ordinary Englishman's information will be drawn if he possesses any at all.

The other day Lord Salisbury and the other ministers were entertained at the annual banquet given by the Lord Mayor of London. Lord Cross was there and also Sir John Gorst. Long speeches were made and Lord Salisbury particularly discussed Irish affairs, Foreign affairs the affairs of the United States of America, of South America, of Europe and of European alliances. Yet amidst it all there was no reference by him or any other speaker to that part of the British Empire whose people had been until that day threatened with a calamity in comparison with which even Irish distress dwindles into insignificance. Surely some expression might have been given to the feelings of thankfulness which thousands had felt that morning upon learning that the threatened horror seemed now happily averted. Yet there was not a word. With two Indian Secretaries at the board no one had anything to say for India. One would have thought that the mere association of ideas would have inevitably recalled to Lord Salisbury's mind the sufferings of India and have led him to express in some form of sympathetic utterance the gladness of the nation of which he is the spokesman that the dark clouds were breaking. If for nothing but the sake of politic courtesy and politeness we might have expected so much. The omission is more than astonishing. If Lord Salisbury had not made so much of Ireland it might have been thought that he did not want to hurt the sensitive feelings of an overfed crowd by speaking of such an ugly thing as famine; but he and his colleagues have not even this excuse. In face of this seemingly utter insensibility what irony there seems in the remark of the "Times" that "the British rulers of India stand waiting but ready for the answer which the next fortnight will bring—for a possible declaration of war by the elements themselves, a war which will cost millions of money and hundreds of thousands of lives and which is foredoomed, from the outset, to be more or less a defeat of the piteous efforts of man against the overwhelming force of nature." It would seem that Lord Salisbury must understand by "British rulers of India" the small handful of Anglo-Indians in India alone. Yet even if he imagined all responsibility was with them it would have been at least a graceful act on his part since England at large really has something to do with India to have acknowledged their existence and the circumstances which were giving them such a field for the exercise of their virtues.

Turning now to the above mentioned *Times'* article, the writer notices that the threatened failure of crops is of such a general character as has only once occurred in the memory of living men, The view he says taken of such a calamity by most of the native dynasties and by the English till the present century was that it was vain for man to enter upon the struggle against it at all and he shows by an historic sketch of the various famines down to and including that of 1877-8 that they did actually pass beyond human control. Since the latter period "the valuable investigations of the Famine Commission have been slowly tested and examined and the main conclusion arrived at is that as war must be prepared for during peace, so the inevitable and apparently cyclic years of Indian famine must be provided for during the intervening years of plenty."

The main factors of famine are stated to be—1st, the failure of the periodical rains; 2nd, the absence of a sufficient reserve or staying power on the part of the people; 3rd, the tardy or insufficient action of the Government in the early stages of distress; and 4th, the isolation of the stricken tracts.

In respect of the first point experience of irrigation works proves that except under favourable conditions they are not reproductive in ordinary years and useless against famines. As to the second there seems something less than candour in dealing with it. The writer speaks of developing the resources of the country and opening up new branches of industry and passes by without notice the fact that the want of staying power amongst the people at large has decreased *pari passu* with the development of the manufacturing and commercial interests. Under the third head he treats of the Famine code, and as to this he says that the whole administrative body knows what there is to do so that in Madras relief works and food distribution were commenced in time to arrest the preliminary panic which in former famines cast the population adrift from its local moorings and set it drifting into hopeless congested masses. It is, however, under the fourth head that the provision of the Government can make itself most effectively felt and of course he treats of the railway works that have been constructed in dealing with this point. The case of Orissa is particularly dwelt upon and in remarking that with certain serious exceptions the old isolation of the famine areas of India has been broken through he points out that the most serious of them is still the Province of Orissa which a quarter of a century ago formed the unhappy object lesson of the result of isolation which so far as regards railway communication

might any year again find itself in the condition of a ship at sea without provisions.

The remainder of the article deals with the question of the exportation of grain and the review of this subject by Mr. O' Conor. The situation this year is thus described: Owing to short crops in Europe and especially in France the price of wheat in England ran up from 33*s.* 2*d.* on March 14th, to 41*s.* a quarter on May 2nd. The Indian market at once responded to the demand and shipped 7½ millions of hundred weights of wheat during the first six months of the year as against 4½ millions during the corresponding months of 1890. What effect has this exportation upon the food supply of India? In the wheat-bearing British provinces wheat is said only to occupy 18 millions out of a total of 93 millions of acres under food-grains—that is the provinces for which there are statistics. The total yield is calculated at 7 million tons and the annual average exportation at three quarters of a million tons. It thus appears if these figures are correct that the exportation in the early months of the year was exactly at the ordinary rate. These three quarter millions are reckoned by Mr. O' Conor as about 2 per cent of the food-stuffs of the wheat-growing provinces for which statistics are available or probably not more than one per cent of the food grains produced in British India including Burmah. This makes the exportation in the early part of this year half per cent of the total food grains.

No doubt you are familiar with Sir Edward Buck's argument that the existence of a large wheat export is of importance to India in providing a safety valve against famine inasmuch that as soon as any serious diminution in the food-stocks occurs prices go up above the limit at which it is profitable to export wheat and keep in the country a large supply of food over and above the outturn of the area originally intended for home consumption. I can imagine there is something to be said against this plausible theory; but at any rate it occurs to one that this year gives no support to it for as we have seen the ordinary exportation has gone on in spite of the higher prices and the signs of impending famine which have long been evident.

Mr O' Conor while accepting the ordinary free-trade theory thinks there are special reasons making interference with exportation unjustifiable to the case of India which he thus states "Wheat is the ordinary food of not one-tenth of the population. That tenth is not the 'submerged tenth' but that section of the population which is best off and best able to take care of itself in times of emergency. Can State interference be justified for the purpose of cheapening wheat—assuming that this result would be achieved—to this fraction of the population? Almost we should add 1 or 2 per cent. to the food stocks and by so much assist that section of the consumers who are not the most in need of assistance but in doing so we should injure the producer who is also a consumer." The *Times* writer thus thinks two points are clear. First, that the existence of the export wheat trade as a normal factor in Indian food production, aids instead of weakening the staying power of the Indian population in their recurring struggle with famine. Second, that if famine again lies before India during the present year merchants may safely make their arrangements for moving the food supply to the provinces where it is most needed, or exporting wheat and rice, without fear of the local Governments or officials listening to the demand for placing restrictions on the grain trade.

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL—ITS UNEQUALLED EFFICACY in CASES OF CHRONIC COUGH.—This celebrated Oil has been most extensively and successfully used in the treatment of Chronic Coughs. It effectually corrects the morbid action and deposits of mucous surfaces of the throat and bronchial tube, and speedily allays the irritation which produces frequent and prolonged coughing. Dr. Hunter Semple, Physician to the Hospital for Diseases of the Throat and Chest, writes:—"I have long been aware of the great reputation enjoyed by the Light Brown Cod Liver Oil introduced into medical practice by Dr. de Jongh, and have recommended it with the uttmost confidence. I have no hesitation in stating my opinion, that it possesses all the qualities of a good and efficient medicine. Its taste is by no means disagreeable, and might even be called pleasant. I can fully believe that, from its richness in chemical principles, it is superior in efficacy to many, or perhaps all, of the pale-coloured Oils. I have found Dr. de Jongh's Oil very useful in cases of Chronic Cough, and especially in Laryngeal Diseases complicated with Consumption." Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil sold only in capsuled imperial half-pints, pints, and quarts with his stamp and signature and the signature of his sole consignees on the capsule and label under wrapper by all chemists, druggists and store-keepers. Sole consignees, Ansar, Harford and Co., 210, High Holborn, London.

Extracts.

RAJENDRA LALA MITRA, L.L.D., C.I.E.

By the death of Dr. Rajendra Lala Mitra, which took place at Calcutta last week, India has lost one of her few native scholars who, both by sound principles of research and by command over the English language, could rank with the Orientalists of Europe. His career is also specially interesting, because he did not belong to a Brahman Caste (with whom a knowledge of Sanskrit is hereditary), nor did he ever enjoy the advantages either of a University education or of a professorship. Like the English pioneers of Orientalism—Jones and Colebrooke and Prinsep—he may be called an amateur, in the best sense of that word.

Dr. Rajendra Lala Mitra was born at Surah, a Suburb of Calcutta, in February, 1824, so that he had completed his sixty-seventh year. The clan of the Kayasth Caste to which he belonged trace their descent through twenty-four generations to an ancestor who came from Upper India in the reign of Adisur, King of Bengal, in the tenth century A.D. With other Kayasth clans—such as the Ghoses, the Datts, the Sens, and the Palits—they have always held a high position in Bengali Society, and in recent years have furnished a large proportion of Civil Servants, judges, and barristers. At the time of his birth, his family had lost the great wealth which they had acquired in the previous century in the service of the Nawabs of Murshidabad, and even (it is said) in that of the Mughal Emperor: but they were noted for their devotion to Sanskrit and Persian literature, and for the possession of a fine library. The boy was thus brought up in a cultivated household, being e lucated only at native schools. For some time he attended the Medical College, and afterwards studied law; and we have heard that Mr. Charles Hay Cameron, the Legal Member of Council who succeeded Macaulay, directed his private studies. Legends are told about the reasons which made him abandon both medicine and law. He does not seem to have tried to enter Government service. At last, in 1846, the future bent of his studies was fixed by his being appointed to the librarianship of the Asiatic Society, which had just previously been vacated by the learned Hungarian, Csoma de Koros. With the Asiatic Society he remained closely connected until his death, for some time as Philological Secretary, as vice-president for twenty years, and finally as president in 1885, being the only native of India who has ever attained that distinction. It was, therefore, natural that when, in 1884, the mother of all Oriental Societies celebrated its centenary, Dr. Rajendra Lala Mitra should have been chosen to write its history. Apart from the works he published, there are few other facts in his life worth recording. In 1856 he was appointed Director of Government Wards in Calcutta, which office he held for more than twenty years. Latterly, he was elected on more than one occasion a member of the Calcutta Municipality, and he was ever ready to take a part in public proceedings on the Liberal side. On the occasion of the Queen's being proclaimed Empress of India, he received the title of Rai Bahadur; and when the Order of the Indian Empire was founded in 1878, he was appointed one of the first Commanders, The University of Calcutta made him one of its Fellows, and conferred upon him the rarer distinction of an honorary degree. He was also an honorary member of our own Royal Asiatic Society, and of as long series of learned bodies on the continent. We believe that he never attended any of the meetings of the International Congress of Orientalists.

Dr. Rajendra Lala Mitra's contributions to the *Journal* and *Proceedings* of the Bengal Asiatic Society cover five columns in the Catalogue, being equalled in number only by those of Mr. Brian Houghton Hodgson, who left India before he began to write, and survived him. Apart from those, he published Catalogues of the curiosities in the Society's Museum, (1849), of the books and maps in the library (1856) of the Sanskrit MSS. dealing with grammar (1877), and of the Buddhist MSS. from Nepal (1882). He was, moreover, an indefatigable contributor to the texts published by the Society under the title of "Bibliotheca Indica." Out of 467 fasciculi in the Sanskrit Series his name is prefixed to 83. Among these may be epecially mentioned the Aiteriya Brahmana of Rig Veda, with an abstract of the contents in English, the Pratisakhya of the Black Yajur Veda with its commentary, the Yoga sutras of Patanjali, with English translation and notes; the Agni and Vayu Puranas; the Kamadakiya Nitisara, an encyclopædic work which purports to contain the political maxious of the minister of Chundra Gupta.

But the books by which Dr. Rajendralala Mitra is best known in this country are three:—first *the Antiquities of Orissa* (two volumes large quarter, 1875 and 1880), illustrated with lithographs, plates and photograps, containing the results of an archæological mission on behalf of the Government at the suggestion of the Society of Arts. Here the author traces back both the form of the image of Jagannath, and also the car-festival, to a Buddhistic origin. Second, a Similarly illustrated work on Budh Gya, the hermitage of Sakya Muni (1878). And third,, *Indo Aryans* (two volumes, 1881), in which he has collected as number of previously published papers dealing with the ancient and medieval history of India. Among the questions here discussed are human sacrifice, the eating of beef, and the use of intoxicating liquors in vedic times; and—a subject which the author had made specially his own—the Chronology of the early Pala and Sen dynasties of Bengal.

Dr. Rajendralala Mitra had not produced much of late years, owing to weak health; but his name will always be remembered as one of the most industrious and single-minded of those Indian students who have been trained to appreciate the accuracy of Western methods of investigation—*The Academy* August 8th, 1891

DARLINGTON'S PAIN-CURER.—This famous and popular remedy has been found to cure pains of every description arising from whatever cause, on any part of the human frame. A certain cure for Pains in the Back, Lumbago, Pains in the Chest, Sore Throats, Coughs, Colds, Mumps, Tightness of the Chest, Bronchitis, Diptheria, Headache, Toothache, Neuralgia, Colic, Rheumatism; Paralysis, Pains in the Groins, Contracted Joints, Gout Sciatica, Bad Legs, Bad Breasts, Swellings, Old Sores, Ulcers, Piles, Ringworm, Pimples, and Eruptions on the Skin. Highly recommended by the Medical faculty. Thousands of Testimonials of its marvellous cures. St. John Buchan writes from Allahabad:—"It acted like a charm." Call for Darlington's Pain-Curer and see you get it. Per bottles Re. 1; large size, Rs. 2; packing and postage As. 8. May be had from Messrs. Darlington & Co., at their establishment 49, Dhurrumtollah Street, Calcutta.

MEMORY. LOISETTE'S System. A Law Lecturer of King's College London (J. H. Scaife, LL.B.), says (Jan., 1891): "Invaluable for examination purposes and as a sound training of the Memory." A Cambridge University) Lecturer (Dr. R. N. Ingle, M.A.) was (Jan., 1890- "Much impressed with the possibilities of improvement to memory which the LOISETTE Lessons open up." "I derived great benefit for your lessons, though it at first prejudiced against them by the misrepresentations of Mr. Appleby."—Dr. Geo. Herschell, Pysician to the West End Hospital for Diseases of the Nervous System, London. "In three weeks I was able to memorise the names, &c., of 400 men."—Major Jamieson, Bengal S. C. "Excellent' travelling companion."—Capt J. B. Haye, R. N. "Wonderful aid to memory."—Mirza Sader-ud-din Khan. "Invaluable."—J. J. Francis, Q. B. "Does not involve much labour."—*Statesman*, 23rd Oct., 1887. "The audience (representative of the learned Professions) was most enthusiastic." *Glasgow Herald*, 5th March, 1891 Tremendously popular in Oxford."—*Pall Mall Gazette*, 4th Feb., 1890. Prospectus Free. One Pupil Rs. 76; Ten pupils Rs. 19 each. Apply to F. Fisk Williams, 71, Elliot Road, Calcutta; or to A LOISETTE, 37, New Oxford Street, London

BARON YVAN writes: Sir, It is with pleasure that I am able to inform you of the results I have obtained with Chassaing's Pepsine and Diastase Wine and Syrup. I have given them to many patients for whom I had previously prescribed, and in vain, all the ordinary medicaments, and I certainly ought to acknowledge that I succeeded in restoring the health of persons, whom I considered as lost, by the use of Chassaing's Wine and Syrup. I trust my testimonial may be of use to you, for it is the simple expression of the truth. Yours very truly, Baron Yvan, Surgeon to the Military Hospitals of Paris, and to the Postal Administration.

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DR. RAJENDRALALA MITRA, C. I. E., whose death is just announced, was a distinguished Oriental scholar. For upwards of 40 years Dr. Mitra has been one of the most industrious contributors to the pages of the *Journal* and *Proceedings* of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, the recognised medium of publication at Calcutta of all researches in the history, literature, archæology, and natural science of India and adjacent regions. Among Dr. Mitra's 114 papers published by the Society may be mentioned the following:—"On Some Græco-Bactrain Relics from Rawul Pindi" (1862); "On Greek Arts in India," add"On Leprosy in Ancient Iddia" (1875); "On the Representation of Foreigners in the Ajanta Frescoes" (1878). Another branch of autiquarian esearch to which Dr. Mitra devoted much attention was the elucidation of inscriptions (whether on stone or copper) and of ancient coins. His more important works were:—"Buddha Gaya, the Hermitage of Sakya Muni," a monograph on that great temple; and "The Autiquities of Orissa," in two volumes, a work which was the outcome of an archæological mission to Bhuvanesvara, whither Dr. Mitra was despatched by Government in 1868-69. Dr. Mitra was often consulted by Government in regard to antiquarian matters, and he was created a Companion of the Indian Empire in 1878.—*Building News.*

THE death is announced from Calcutta of Dr. Rajendralala Mitra, C.I.E. a scholar remarkable in several ways. He may be considered as a typical product of the nineteenth century Bengal. Though a member of a non-Brahmanical caste, formerly debarred from all study of the Sanskrit, he nevertheless gained sufficient knowledge both of this language and of English to secure him a high place among native students of literature and archæology. This gained for him the recognition of Government in the form of the title above-noted and also from the hands of the European scholars of Calcutta—always, of course, preponderating in the Bengal Asiatic Society—the honor, quite unprecednted for a native, of the presidency of that learned body.

In the spacious house which he inhabited for many years in Maniktollah, Calcutta, he was wont to display, with perdonable pride a whole caseful of his works, which were, indeed, exceedingly numerous. He edited or translated some ten or a dozen Sanskrit texts, some ninety fasciculi of the Asiatic Society's 'Bibliotheca Indica.' Of these perhaps the best that can be said is that he did useful service by breaking new ground; but in many cases (notably in that of the great Buddhist work, the 'Lalitavistara' the ground will soon have to be retraversed by more accurate workers.

The papers contributed by him to the *Journal* and *Proceedings* of the Bengal Asiatic Society number over one hundred, and extend over some forty annual volumes of those series.

This great archæological industry procured for Rajendralala the notice of the Bengal Government and he was entrusted, somewhat injudiciously, with the preparation of his two chief works, on the antiquities of Orrissa and on those of Buddha Gaya. These appeared in 1879-80 in a sumptuous form; but the lack of critical judgment displayed in them drew at last from the late Mr. James Fergusson, whose books had been attacked therein, a most crushing exposure entitled "Archæology in India, with especial Reference to the Works of Babu Rajendralal Mitra' (1884). Far more useful was the Babu's work in supervising and editing the labours of others. He employed numerous pandits, and thus was enabled, after the Indian fashion, to utilize the efforts of scholars far more profound than himself. His 'Notices of Sanskrit MSS,' prepared for Government in ten volumes, is most serviceable, and only lacks a general index. His 'Nepalese Buddhist Literature' is also extremely useful, though here one traces the marks of several very unequal hands. We may look for a more detailed account of his life and writings from the Society of which he has been a prominent member for nearly half a century.

CECIL BENDALL.

Government Notification

Calcutta Gazette—*September* 2, 1891.

GENERAL.—Babu Chunder Kant Ganguly, Sub-Deputy Collector, is appointed to have charge of the Tehsil office at Fallacotta, in the Julpigorj District.

Mr R C Sterndale, substantive pro tempore Cantonment Magistrate, Dum Dum, and Judge of the small Cause Court in that Cantonment, is appointed to have charge, as Sub-Divisitional officer, of the villages outside Cantonment limits which constitute the Barrackpore Sub-Division, in addition to his own duties, with effect from the date on which he assumed charge.

Babu Amrat Chunder Chatterji Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Sonthal Pergunnahs, is allowed leave for one month, under Article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 10th instant.

Mr. F R Roe, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Mozufferpore, is transferred to the head-quarters station of the Sonthal pergunnahs District.

Mr. L J Kershaw, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Mymensingh, is transferred to the head-quarters station of the Mozufferpore District.

Mr W C Taylor is appointed temporarily to be a Special Deputy Collector for the purpose of acquiring land for the East Coast Railway in the Puri District, and is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act X of 1870 in that District.

Babu Pran Kumar Dass, Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of Burdwan, is allowed leave for three months, under Article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved.

Babu Shamadhub Roy, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Hughly, is appointed to act as Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of Burdwan, during the absence, on leave, of Babu Pran Kumar Dass, or until further orders.

The services of Second Lieutenant A C Elliot are replaced at the disposal of the Government of India in the Military Department, with effect from the 21st July, 1891, the date on which he was relieved of his appointment at as Aide-de-Camp on the Personal Staff of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.

Babu Sukumar Halder, substantive pro tempore Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on special duty, is posted temporarily to the head-quarters station of the Birbhum District.

The Hon'ble F M Halliday, Member of the Board of Revenue, is allowed leave for one month and three days, under Article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 15th September, 1891.

Mr R R Pope, Officiating District and Sessions Judge, Hughly, who was, under the order of the 11th August, 1891, appointed to act as District and Sessions Judge of Burdwan vice Mr F W Badcock, on privilege leave, is also appointed to act as Sessions Judge of Birbhum Sessions Division, during the absence on leave of Mr J Whitmore, or until further orders.

Moulvi Ikram Russul, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Nuddea, is allowed leave for one month, under Article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 19th August, 1891.

Mr G G Dey, Officiating District and Sessions Judge, Midnapore, is allowed leave for two months and twenty-eight days, viz., one month and five days under Articles 308 and 309 of the Civil Service Regulations, and the remaining period under Article 306 (b) of the same Regulations with effect from the 6th instant.

Mr C M W Brett, Officiating Judicial Commissioner, Chota Nagpore, is appointed to act as District and Sessions Judge of Midnapore, during the absence on leave of Mr G G Dey, or until further orders.

Mr F W R Cowley, Judicial Commissioner, Chota Nagpore, has been granted by the Right Hon'ble the Secretary of State for India an extension of special leave for sixteen days.

Babu Gopal Ballab Dass, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Cuttack, is appointed to act, until further orders, as Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of Orissa and also as Assistant to the Superintendent of the Tributary Mehals, Orissa.

He is vested with the powers of a Deputy Collector in those Mehals.

Babu Rash Behari Naik, Probationary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is posted to the head-quarters station of the Cuttack District on being relieved of his present appointments as Officiating Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of Orissa and Officiating Assistant to the Superintendent of the Tributary Mehals, Orissa.

The following promotions and confirmations are made in the Executive Branch of the Provincial Service:—

Confirmed in the fourth grade.

Mr. A. H. Warde Jones, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector Hazaribugh.

Promoted substantively pro tempore *to the fourth grade.*

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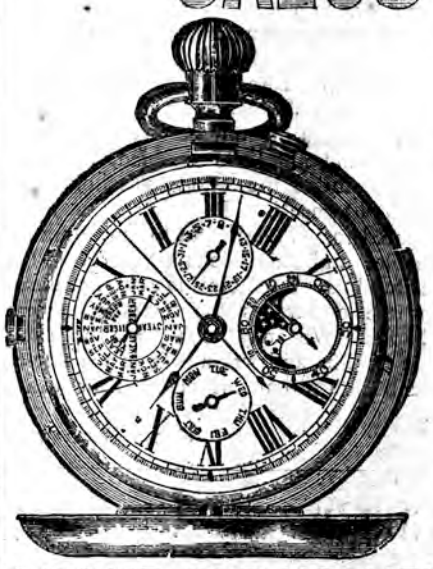

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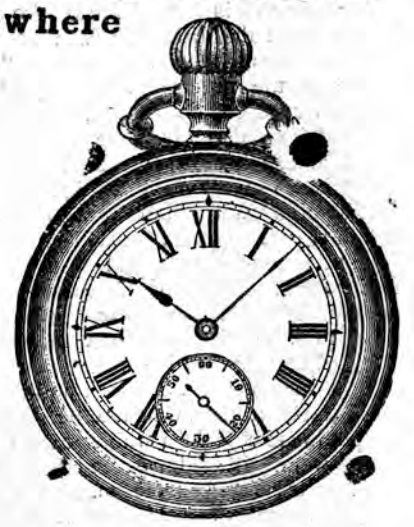

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